Sale sets record | Snap Decision repeats in Iroquois | MD-breds win 3 at Pimlico

Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred

Vol. 30, Issue 7
JULY 2022

Poll Position

Early Voting rules in Preakness landslide

Success in the Sales Ring

Photos by Z

A $350K Friesan Fire, a $165K Mosler at Fasig-Tipton Midlantic 2YO Sale

Sire of Grade 1 winner and prominent 2022 Freshman Sire ARMY MULE, **FRIESAN FIRE** topped all Mid-Atlantic stallions with his $350,000 filly, bred in Maryland by Charles Parker. **MOSLER**, a leading Mid-Atlantic Third-Crop Sire, routinely stamps his get in his image, including this $165,000 Maryland-bred out of Keep Right. Bred by Country Life Farm and the Keep Right LLC.

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. . . and at the Race Track.

Eclipse Sportswire/Dan Heary

Divine Huntress (second from left) finished second in G1 Acorn on June 11 at Belmont.

Grade 1-placed filly in First Crop: Divining Rod

SCOTT SERIO/ECLIPSE SPORTSWIRE

The Thinkers. **Hall of Fame trainer D. Wayne Lukas, exercise rider Oscar Quevado, and lead pony Riff take an early-morning moment in the Pimlico Stakes Barn during Preakness Week.**

In this issue

Early Voting grabs the Preakness

In a result reminiscent of Cloud Computing's score at Pimlico Race Course five years earlier, Early Voting prevails in the Preakness Stakes for owner Klaravich Stables and trainer Chad Brown as Kentucky Derby upsetter Rich Strike skips the Triple Crown's second jewel. By Tom Law. Page 18

Maryland-breds shine on Pimlico undercard

Interstatedaydream lands the Black-Eyed Susan, First Captain takes down the Pimlico Special but Maryland-breds shine on the Preakness stage too as Jaxon Traveler, Joe and Can the Queen win stakes on the Preakness Weekend undercard at Pimlico. By Joe Clancy and Tom Law. Page 24

Fireworks fly to records at May 2-year-old sale

Fasig-Tipton Midlantic's May 2-year-old sale sets new marks at the top (with a $3.55 million colt bred in New York by Chester and Mary Broman and purchased by Zedan Racing) and other measurements as gross, average climb. By Sara Gordon. Page 32

Snap Decision repeats in Iroquois

After three consecutive losses, which followed nine wins in a row, star jumper Snap Decision wins the Iroquois Steeplechase for the second time as spring season comes to a close. Leslie Young's hot start leads trainers' race. By Joe and Sean Clancy. Page 40

Cover: **Early Voting and Jose Ortiz reach the finish line of the Preakness Stakes at Pimlico, with a classic win for Klaravich Stables and trainer Chad Brown.** Photo by John Voorhees/Eclipse Sportswire.

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Midlantic Fall Yearlings

OCTOBER 3-4, 2022

TIMONIUM, MARYLAND

ENTRIES CLOSE: JULY 8, 2022

RECORD RESULTS IN 2021!

GROSS
$11,269,400
+24% OVER 2020

AVERAGE
$29,578
#1 IN SALE HISTORY

MEDIAN
$20,000
#1 IN SALE HISTORY

RNA
16%
LOWEST SINCE 2013

16 SOLD FOR
$100,000+
+45% OVER 2020

61 SOLD FOR
$50,000+
+23% OVER 2020

2021 SALE TOPPER

HIP 415 c. Mendelssohn-Grace is Gone

$235,000

Buyer: Scanlon Training & Sales
Consignor: Northview Stallion Station, agent

TOP HIPS INCLUDED

$230,000
MENDELSSOHN COLT

$220,000
UNION RAGS COLT

$200,000
NYQUIST FILLY

$200,000
STREET SENSE FILLY

"I feel like I am paying more than I thought I would have to. It's still strong and I've been outbid on a bunch of very nice horses."
- Cary Frommer, buyer

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MARYLAND-BRED RACE FUND

2022 MARYLAND-BRED/MARYLAND-SIRED STAKES SCHEDULE

Through December 2022

July 30

$75,000 BEN'S CAT 3YO & Up, 5½ furlongs, Turf
$75,000 JAMEELA 3YO & Up, Fillies and Mares, 5½ furlongs, Turf
$75,000 MISS DISCO 3YO, Fillies, 7 furlongs
$75,000 STAR DE NASKRA 3YO, 7 furlongs

November 25

$75,000 HOWARD BENDER 3YO & Up, 7 furlongs
$75,000 POLITELY 3YO & Up, Fillies and Mares, 6 furlongs

December 3

$100,000 MD JUVENILE FUTURITY 2YO, 7 furlongs
$100,000 MD JUVENILE FILLY CHAMPIONSHIP 2YO, Fillies, 7 furlongs

88th Annual

MHBA

THOROUGHBRED

Yearling Show

Sunday, July 24 at 10 a.m.

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Horse Show Ring, Maryland State Fairgrounds, Timonium

Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred

Volume 30, Issue 7

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Mid-AtlanticThoroughbred (ISSN 1056-3245) is owned and published monthly by the Maryland Horse Breeders Association, 321 Main Street, Reisterstown, MD 21136. (410) 252-2100; Fax (410) 560-0503. Subscription rate $36 per year. Subscription rate outside the U.S. $91 per year (surface mail), payable by U.S. money order or by bank draft payable in U.S. funds. Canadian GST No. 130277759; C.P.C. IPM No. 0956988. Subscription price included in annual membership dues to the Maryland Horse Breeders Association.

Periodicals postage paid at Lutherville-Timonium, Md. 21093 and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to **Mid-AtlanticThoroughbred,** 321 Main St., Reisterstown, MD 21136.

Single copies: $5 current issue ($7 back issues past 12 months), plus $4 postage and handling. $15 Stallion Directory (December issue); $15 Statistical Review (March issue), plus $5 postage and handling. Maryland residents add 6% sales tax.

Mid-AtlanticThoroughbred is mailed to paid subscribers; to licensed owners and trainers in the eight-state region; and to active members of those breeder associations which comprise the **Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred Council:**

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Printed by The Lane Press, Burlington, VT
Printed in the U.S.A.

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MARYLAND JOCKEY CLUB
AT LAUREL PARK

SUMMER SIZZLERS IN JULY

11 STAKES TOTALING $1,050,000 OVER THREE WEEKENDS

SAT/JUL 2	$200,000 IN PURSES
THE CAESAR'S WISH *Fillies and Mares - Three Year Olds and Upward // 1 Mile*	$100,000
THE CONCERN STAKES (Listed) *Three Year Olds // 7 Furlongs*	$100,000

SAT/JUL 16	$450,000 IN PURSES
THE FRANK J. DE FRANCIS MEMORIAL DASH (Listed) *Three Year Olds and Upward // 6 Furlongs*	$150,000
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY (Listed) *Three Year Olds and Upward // 1 and 1/8 Miles (Turf)*	$100,000
THE ALMA NORTH *Fillies And Mares - Three Year Olds and Upward // 6 and 1/2 Furlongs*	$100,000
THE BIG DREYFUS *Fillies And Mares - Three Year Olds and Upward // 1 and 1/8 Miles (Turf)*	$100,000

SAT/JUL 30	$400,000 IN PURSES
THE DEPUTED TESTAMONY *Three Year Olds and Upward // 1 and 1/8 Miles*	$100,000
THE JAMEELA STAKES (MD BRED / MD SIRED) *Fillies And Mares - Three Year Olds and Upward // 5 and 1/2 Furlongs (Turf)*	$75,000
THE STAR DE NASKRA (MD BRED / MD SIRED) *Three Year Olds // 7 Furlongs*	$75,000
THE MISS DISCO (MD BRED / MD SIRED) *Fillies - Three Years Old // 7 Furlongs*	$75,000
THE BEN'S CAT (MD BRED / MD SIRED) *Three Year Olds and Upward // 5 and 1/2 Furlongs (Turf)*	$75,000

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POST TIME

MOUNTAIN MAN. Wow Whata Summer (center) leads the way late in the Penn Mile, a $400,000 Grade 2 turf stakes, at Penn National June 3. Trained at Fair Hill Training Center by Chuck Lawrence—for owner/breeder Jeremy Brooks—the winner paid $168.60 and gave jockey Tyler Conner one of three wins on the stakes-filled card.

Bill Denver/Equi-Photo, Inc.

Say It Again

"We run in Dallas, Texas, every year. I think we know how to treat one in the hot weather."
Assistant trainer Scott Blasi, to some unsolicited feedback on dealing with a hot horse at the Preakness

"We love running in Maryland. We love coming to Pimlico. They take such good care of us and our partners and our team."
West Point Thoroughbreds' Dawn Lenert, on bringing horses to Pimlico and Laurel

"My hesitation or angst is we all saw what happened two weeks ago, so I don't want to hear anybody tell me what they know. It's not easy. It's never easy."
Trainer Steve Asmussen, about the chances of Kentucky Derby runner-up Epicenter in the Preakness; he was second again

"She was lying down. We had to wake her up to put the bandages on."
Assistant trainer Bas Nicholl, on Secret Oath's Preakness stress level

"Slow down. Drive like YOUR horse lived here."
Stable area sign, not fooling around, at Pimlico

"Is this a toothbrush?"
America's Best Racing's Dan Tjordman, after getting handed a Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance hoofpick

"I love the Maryland accent. The way that the Marylanders talk is cool."
Trainer Kenny "Kentucky accent" McPeek, at the Alibi Breakfast

"There are three signs of old age. The first is loss of memory . . ."
Trainer D. Wayne Lukas, who never got to the other two, at the Alibi Breakfast

"Do you know how many people named Fenwick live in Baltimore?"
Local, explaining the low odds of a Preakness longshot

NAMES OF THE MONTH

In a Hurry. Third in the Gallorette-G3 at Pimlico on Preakness Day, the 5-year-old mare (a homebred for Marylander Stuart Janney III) is out of Scampering. There are siblings named Romp and Hightailing.

My Friends Beer. The 5-year-old Maryland-bred, a winner at Parx Racing in February, is by Stay Thirsty.

Joe, more than a name

A Delaware attorney, philanthropist and Thoroughbred owner/breeder, Stuart Grant once named a horse after his friend Joe Biden. Foaled in 2007, V P Joe didn't exactly post many landslide victories–winning once for Grant at Charles Town and twice more (for $5,000 and $2,500 tags) after getting claimed.

A dozen years later, Grant kept it simple and named a bay colt Joe. And with Biden now the President of the United States, Joe the horse won five of his first seven starts, including three stakes, and boasted earnings of $288,324 through June 7. After his win in the James W. Murphy at Pimlico on Preakness Day, Grant explained how it came to be.

"I first met him in the late 1980s and we've been friends ever since," said Grant, a former trustee at the University of Delaware who retired as the head of the Grant and Eisenhofer law firm in Wilmington in 2018. Grant helped with the former Delaware senator's campaigns, and knew Biden's son Beau, the former attorney general of Delaware, who died of cancer in 2015.

Naming a horse for the president, or vice president, comes with some risks (just look at V P Joe) and doesn't necessarily guarantee any notoriety. Grant briefly considered a Preakness Stakes-G1 start for his Maryland-bred, which might (might) have warranted a Pimlico trip for Biden to see his namesake.

"He knows," Grant said when asked if the president was aware of Joe the horse. "He's got a lot on his mind though. We'll keep sending him the win photos, he just has to keep running the country."

GO FIGURE

1 North Carolina-bred to win at Pimlico on Preakness Day. Hiab Al Zaman dominated seven other Arabians in the $100,000 UAE President's Cup-G1. It was the 5-year-old's fifth win in 10 starts, and third graded stakes win. Owned and bred by James and Susan Meyer, the winner prepped at Maryland's Fair Hill Training Center for trainer Jeremias Castro.

8 Racetracks where Jaxon Traveler has competed–Pimlico, Laurel, Saratoga, Belmont, Aqueduct, Mahoning Valley, Oaklawn and Woodbine–in 16 starts.

11 Times auctioneer Tom Biederman asked for a $3.6 million bid on the Timonium sales-topper who went for $3.55 million (see page 32).

Grooms honored on Preakness Weekend

The Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance hosted the best turned-out awards in partnership with the Maryland Jockey Club for the Black-Eyed Susan and Preakness Stakes cards, and with help from sponsors Beyond The Wire and Fidelity First with a cash prize and TAA gift bag going to the winning groom.

"Hosting the best turned-out awards at the Preakness is always a highlight for the Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance," said Stacie Clark Rogers, TAA operations consultant. "Honoring the grooms who work day in and day out caring for our Thoroughbreds is a privilege and we're grateful for the Maryland Jockey Club for continuing this tradition."

The recipients included:

Black-Eyed Susan Day

RACE 1. KOBE TOUGH. Groom: Ramon Garcia. Trainer: Tim Keefe.
RACE 2. SAINT EROS GIRL. Groom: Alex Garcaro. Trainer: Ron Moquett.
RACE 3. NEVER EXPLAIN. Groom: Benjamin Maldonado. Trainer: Shug McGaughey.
RACE 4. GALLANT GOLD. Groom: Caesar Cruz. Trainer: John Salzman Sr.
RACE 5. LOVE YOU MUCH. Groom: Raul Ivina. Trainer: Ferris Allen.
RACE 6. SHINELIKEADIAMOND. Groom: Phillipe Cortez. Trainer: Tim Keefe.
RACE 7. B DETERMINED. Groom: Hazel & Mazie O'Neil. Trainer: Suzanne Stettinius.
RACE 8. CLICK TO CONFIRM. Groom: Juan Barajas. Trainer: Rudy Sanchez-Salomon.
RACE 9. DETERMINED STAR. Groom: Alvaro Barajas. Trainer: Phil Schoenthal.
RACE 10. VERYLITTLECENTS. Groom: Eligio Perez. Trainer: Randy Morse.
RACE 11. SPUN GLASS. Groom: Saul Ramirez. Trainer: Mike Trombetta.
RACE 12. MOHAAFETH. Groom: Victor Manuel Barajas. Trainer: Elvis Trujillo.
RACE 13. MIDNIGHT STROLL. Groom: William Rodriguez. Trainer: John Terranova.
RACE 14. BLAME B B. Groom: Francisco Magdaleno. Trainer: Anthony Aguirre.

Preakness Day

RACE 1. ABUELO PAPS. Groom: Howard Throckmartin. Trainer: Marco Salazar.
RACE 2. BENANDJOE. Groom: Jose Magdaleno. Trainer: Hugh McMahon.
RACE 3. SPIRITUAL GHOST. Groom: Rafael Magdaleno. Trainer: Rick Buckley.
RACE 4. SIR ALFRED JAMES. Groom: Roberto Sanchez. Trainer: Norman Cash.
RACE 5. TECHNICAL ANALYSIS (Ire). Groom: Alvaro Garerro. Trainer: Chad Brown.
RACE 6. VOLADOR. Groom: Victor Estrella. Trainer: Hugh McMahon.
RACE 7. CINNABUNNY. Groom: Alex Mata. Trainer: Cathal Lynch.
RACE 8. BEACON HILL. Groom: Pedro Estrada. Trainer: Michael Matz.
RACE 9. DOCTOR JEFF. Groom: Enrique Sanchez. Trainer: Rudy Rodriguez.
RACE 10. LOCAL MOTIVE. Groom: Javier Cruz. Trainer: John Salzman Jr.
RACE 11. ETHEREAL ROAD. Groom: Rosa Jimenez. Trainer: D. Wayne Lukas.
RACE 12. SMOKIN' JAY. Groom: Sadie Jenkins. Trainer: Kelsey Danner.
RACE 13. SECRET OATH. Groom: Arturo Topete. Trainer: D. Wayne Lukas.
RACE 14. PROUD AMERICAN. Groom: Hector Castellanos. Trainer: Nicole Ruggeri.

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Breeders

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In 2021, breeders received 32% bonuses on the winning purses their VA-breds earned in North America.

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Earn a 25% bonus on winning purses at ALL NSA-sanctioned meets in the Mid-Atlantic.
At Colonial Downs, VA-bred and VA-sired are eligible for:

- FIVE $125,000 Stakes for VA-bred and VA-sired horses
- SIX VA Restricted Stakes where VA-bred, VA-sired run for $150,000 *(VA-certified run for $100,000)*
- Earn 50% bonus on purses for 1st thru 4th in all open races (no owner bonuses are earned for VA restricted races)
- More restricted overnight races than ever before.

Virginia-Certified Developers

Developers of VA-Certified horses earn a 25% bonus for any win in the Mid-Atlantic, including NSA-sanctioned meets*. Developers earn 10% bonus in WV restricted races.

To be certified, horse must complete a minimum 6-month VA residency prior to December 31 of its 2YO year.
Developer is the owner of the horse in its first career start.
**Developer bonuses are only paid for wins in open races at Colonial Downs*

Virginia-Certified Owners

At Colonial Downs, VA-certified are eligible for:
SIX $100,000 VA Restricted Stakes AND MORE restricted overnight races than ever before
To be certified, horse must complete a minimum 6-month VA residency prior to December 31 of its 2YO year.

See VaBred.org for program details or contact the Virginia Thoroughbred Association at 434-977-3716

Derby winner's rich history goes through Pennsylvania's Maui Meadow

By Paul Halloran

Charles B. "Charlie" Lyman III was as surprised as anyone when 80-1 longshot Rich Strike shocked the world by winning the 148th Kentucky Derby-G1 May 7. Imagine how he felt when he learned his Maui Meadow Farm has a connection to the horse.

"We had no clue we had any ties to that horse breeding-wise," said Lyman, a third-generation horseman who operates the farm and a Thoroughbred aftercare operation with his wife, Nina. "My wife's dad [James Bradley] looked it up."

ECLIPSE SPORTSWIRE/EVERS

You have to go back to Rich Strike's third dam, Pennsylvania-bred Panning for Gold, to find the connection. By Search for Gold, Panning for Gold was bred by Lyman's grandparents, Gen. Charles B. Lyman and his wife, Polly, who also bred the fourth dam, Apple Pan Dowdy, and fifth dam, Apple Bomb, also Pennsylvania-breds.

The Lymans sold Panning for Gold to Robert Harvey, a Canadian who turned her over to trainer Sid Attard. Racing exclusively in Canada, Panning for Gold won six of 20 starts and a small stakes. Panning for Gold was bred to graded stakes winner Dixieland Brass, producing the British Columbia-bred Brassy Gold. The unraced Brassy Gold was bred to Smart Strike, resulting in a filly named Gold Strike, a Manitoba-bred who earned $564,500 for Harlequin Ranches and trainer Reade Baker. She won four stakes, including the Grade 3 Selene at Woodbine, finished third in the Queen's Plate and won the Sovereign Award as Canada's champion 3-year-old filly of 2005.

Gold Strike was bred to Calumet Farm stallion Keen Ice–a grandson of Smart Strike–and on April 25, 2019, she gave birth to Rich Strike.

Once Lyman was made aware of his family farm's link to Rich Strike, he naturally went back and rewatched the Derby.

"You can find that stretch run everywhere," he said.

And how does it feel to have a connection, albeit a loose one, to the winner of America's greatest race?

"It's probably the closest we'll get to winning the Derby," Lyman said, with a chuckle.

That may be true–though Rich Strike's owner Rick Dawson and trainer Eric Reed may have felt the same way before this spring–but the measure of success in racing extends far beyond Louisville, and the Lymans have the legacy to prove it.

The story begins far from their longtime West Chester, Pa., base–in Hawaii, where Charlie's great-grandfather was a missionary. His grandfather, Gen. Charles B. Lyman, and his uncle, Albert, were the first Hawaiians to go to West Point, Charlie Lyman said, and the first to become Army generals.

After Gen. Charles B. Lyman, a veteran of World War I and II, left the service, he and his wife, Polly, bought a farm in 1946 and named it Maui Meadow, paying homage to his Pacific roots and his favorite horse, Maui Girl, with whom he had won multiple medals in horse shows. His son, Charles B. Lyman Jr., Charlie's father, rode Maui Girl in the National Horse Show at Madison Square Garden as a 17-year-old.

Charles B. Lyman Jr. followed his father's footsteps into the Army and met his wife, Erika, while stationed in Germany. He was discharged in 1959 and he and Erika worked the farm with his parents until his death in 2000. Erika Lyman stayed active in the operation until a few years ago when, "I had to pry the books away from her," said Charlie, who has lived on the farm for all of his 55 years.

They bred and owned 1997 Pennsylvania-bred champion older female Red Hot Iron and stood Bold Effort, the first syndicated stallion in Pennsylvania, and Delaware Township, a multiple graded stakes winner who earned $996,950.

Maui Meadow, a 15-minute drive from the University of Pennsylvania's New Bolton Center veterinary hospital, offers a variety of services, including rehab, equine swimming pool, boarding, breaking, layups, breeding and foaling.

While the breeding operation has slowed–this marked the second consecutive year Charlie and Nina did not have an active stallion at Maui Meadow–the Lymans have developed a successful aftercare operation: Thoroughbred Retirement, Rehabilitation and Careers.

Taking horses who end their careers at tracks including Parx, Penn National, Mountaineer and Charles Town, Nina and Charlie prepare them for adoption, conducting an extensive background check on all who apply. Nina estimates in the last 10 years they have placed 350-400 horses, who have gone on to a variety of second careers, from Olympic equestrian to trail riding.

The future adoptees live alongside retired stallions Capitano, Toy Soldier and Il Postino. There are three barns and 70 stalls at Maui Meadow, but "we always have room for another," Lyman said.

And maybe, just maybe, there is a future Derby winner–or a relative–out there. ◆

MHBA staffer Gordon takes new job with TDN

"Replacing her will be very difficult, if not impossible."

With that, *Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred*'s Barrie Reightler summed up the opinions of everyone on the staff once we found out Sara Gordon was taking a job with Thoroughbred Daily News. That's right, the staff writer/communications manager/photographer/social-media wizard/whatever you want to call her is leaving. In short, we're going to miss her.

As a Virginia Tech sophomore in 2017, Gordon applied for an internship with editor Joe Clancy's *The Saratoga Special* newspaper. She didn't get it, but attended the first class of the Maryland Thoroughbred Career Program and gained her first bylines in the magazine. She later spent a summer with *The Equiery* and Maryland Horse Council, and took a full-time job with the Maryland Horse Breeders Association after graduation in 2019.

Gordon wrote articles, took photos, proofread pages, answered questions and did pretty much everything there is to do with the magazine, MHBA, Maryland Million, Maryland Horse Library and Education Center, and any other project we dreamed up.

While we hate to see her go, we also are proud of her and know she will be an asset to the industry and an important part of any organization lucky enough to have her. We're also hoping she'll be able to write for the magazine on a freelance basis once she's settled in her new home state of Kentucky.

Thanks for everything, Sara. You'll do great. And don't forget us.

– Joe Clancy

Mid-Atlantic-Bred Stakes Winners May 2–June 10

Maryland-bred

CAN THE QUEEN, b.m., 2016, Can the Man-Queenterra, Empire Maker. Breeder: Carol Ann Kaye; owner: Joanne Shankle; trainer: Rodolfo Sanchez-Salomon. $100,000 The Very One, Pimlico, May 20.

HALFINTHEWRAPPER, b.m., 2017, Great Notion-Bear Slayer, Two Punch. Breeder: Dr. Morgan Dove & Karin Wurttemberger; owner: Lets Dance Stable; trainer: Mike Taphorn. $20,000 Ruby's Big Band, Assiniboia, June 1.

JAXON TRAVELER, dk.b./br.c., 2018, Munnings-Listen Boy, After Market. Breeder: Dr. & Mrs. A. Leonard Pineau; owner: West Point Thoroughbreds & Marvin Delfiner; trainer: Steve Asmussen. $150,000 Maryland Sprint-G3, Pimlico, May 21.

JOE, b.c., 2019, Declaration of War-Battle Bridge, Arch. Breeder/owner: The Elkstone Group (Stuart Grant); trainer: Mike Trombetta. $100,000 James W. Murphy, Pimlico, May 21.

New Jersey-bred

ALTA VELOCITA, dk.b./br.m., 2016, Il Postino-Over the Bridge, Hit the Trail. Breeder: Law Legacy Stables; owner: Imaginary Stables & M3 Racing Stable; trainer: Andy Simoff. $85,000 Spruce Fir, Monmouth, May 14.

I'M LISTENING, dk.b./br.m., 2014, Freud-Way With Words, Sefapiano. Breeder: Margaret & George Schwartz; owner: Magic Stable; trainer: Claudio Gonzalez. $85,000 Smart N Classy, Monmouth, June 5.

ROYAL URN, ch.h., 2016, Kantharos-Born to Royalty, King of Kings (Ire). Breeder: John Bowers Jr.; owner: Roseland Farm Stable; trainer: Kelly Breen. $85,000 John J. Reilly, Monmouth, May 15.

Pennsylvania-bred

BAZINGA C, dk.b./br.f., 2019, Exaggerator-Bazinga B, Lion Hearted. Breeder: Joe Besecker & Exaggerator Syndicate; owner: Joe Besecker; trainer: Tim Kreiser. $100,000 New Start, Penn National, June 3.

BUY LAND AND SEE, gr./ro.h., 2017, Cairo Prince-Twiggles, Maria's Mon. Breeder/owner: Joe Imbesi; trainer: Tony Dutrow. $100,000 With Anticipation, Penn National, June 3.

CARAVEL, gr./ro.m., 2017, Mizzen Mast-Zeezee Zoomzoom, Congrats. Breeder: Elizabeth Merryman; owner: Qatar Racing, Marc Detampel, Madaket Stables; trainer: Brad Cox. $200,000 Intercontinental-G3, Belmont, June 10.

MALDIVES MODEL, b.f., 2018, Petionville-Tahitian Pearl, El Prado (Ire). Breeder: Arrowwood Farm; owner: Tom Coulter; trainer: Erin McClellan. $100,000 Lyphard, Penn National, June 3.

NIMITZ CLASS, dk.b./br.c., 2019, Munnings-Five Diamonds, Flatter. Breeder: Arrowwood Farm; owner: Tom Coulter; trainer: Bruce Kravets. $100,000 Danzig, Penn National, June 3.

THE CRITICAL WAY, dk.b./br.g., 2014, Tizway-Critical Factor, Star de Naskra. Breeder: Blackstone Farm; owner: Monster Racing Stables; trainer: Jose Delgado. $100,000 Get Serious, Monmouth, May 22.

West Virginia-bred

MATH MAN MARCO, ch.g., 2019, Alliance-Euro Indian Girl, Eurosilver. Breeder/owner: Robert Cole Jr.; trainer: Irving Velez. $75,000 Coin Collector, Charles Town, May 14.

SILKY SERENA, gr./ro.f., 2019, Fiber Sonde-Safe At First, Honour and Glory. Breeder: Cynthia O'Bannon; owner: Cynthia McKee; trainer: John McKee. $75,000 Its Binn Too Long, Charles Town, May 21.

THE RACING BIZ

The Independent Voice for Mid-Atlantic Racing and Breeding

VRC gives thumbs up to acquisition of Colonial Downs: On June 8 the Virginia Racing Commission voted unanimously to approve Churchill Downs's proposed acquisition of Colonial Downs. Nick Hahn reports.

Bobby Lillis hopes to give backstretch "an ear" at MRC: Former jockey and head of the Horsemen's Assistance Foundation Bobby Lillis has a background unlike any other member of the Maryland Racing Commission, reports Frank Vespe.

For Amy Cortez, a win to smile about: Amy Cortez gallops horses and trains a couple on her own. One of those, Audacious Quality, scored a powerful allowance win at Laurel Park in June. Vespe catches up with the owner/trainer.

For Damon Dilodovico, a strange day, indeed: Trainer Damon Dilodovico saw it all at Laurel Park in early June, losing in impossible fashion with a horse who couldn't lose two races before winning the feature. Vespe takes a look.

Off the Pace–A quartet of memorable Preakness stretch runs: Mike Valiante remembers four editions of the Preakness where the final quarter-mile proved absolutely thrilling.

STALLION NEWS

Maryland's Alliance gets first stakes winner

Maryland resident Robert Cole annually ranks among the leading owners in the country by wins, with a stable of mainly claimers. A few homebreds fill stalls, however, and Cole won a stakes with Math Man Marco in the $75,000 Coin Collector for West Virginia-bred 3-year-olds at Charles Town May 14. The chestnut gelding is the first stakes winner in the first crop of eight foals for Maryland stallion Alliance.

Named for the math tutor for Cole's 15-year-old son, Math Man Marco didn't start at 2, but earned $109,646 with four

COADY PHOTOGRAPHY

wins in his first six starts this year after adding an allowance at Charles Town in June. In the 4½-furlong Coin Collector he held off multiple Maryland stakes-placed favorite Coastal Mission to score three-quarters of a length.

"He's a big horse and usually they tend to mature a little slower," said Cole. "He's got some potential and we hope he stretches out. He's young and we'll take it slow."

The mating of Cole's mare Euro Indian Girl to Alliance was suggested by a friend.

"I didn't know much about the stallion," Cole said. "I typically breed to middle [range] stallions—Alliance was a bargain."

Alliance entered stud at Bonita Farm in Darlington, Md., in 2018. Owned by Larry Karp, the dark bay never made it to the races, but is a son of top sire Harlan's Holiday, a half-brother to two-time champion grass mare and new Hall of Famer Tepin, a three-quarter-brother to millionaire Vyjack (by Harlan's Holiday's son Into Mischief), and a half-brother to multiple graded stakes-placed Prime Cut.

Out of the Stravinsky mare Life Happened, whose third dam was 1996 Maryland Broodmare of the Year Turn Capp, Alliance is from the family of Maryland-bred champions and successful sires Smoke Glacken and Disco Rico, as well as multiple graded winners Miss Slewpy, Smokey Glacken and Crown of Thorns.

– Cindy Deubler

Top Mid-Atlantic sires of 2022

Based on 2022 earnings through June 15

(D-deceased; R-retired)

General earnings

Sire	*rnrs*	*wnrs*	*earnings*
Great Notion (Md)	68	26	$1,708,881
Jump Start (Pa-D)	80	35	1,680,034
Wicked Strong (Pa)	121	44	1,454,153
Uncle Lino (Md)	60	31	1,424,663
Golden Lad (Md)	59	34	1,188,354
Fiber Sonde (WV)	52	25	1,131,821
Mosler (Md)	58	25	1,112,797
Divining Rod (Md)	41	17	898,392
Weigelia (Pa)	44	19	868,847
Bourbon Courage (Md)	47	13	835,043
Bandbox (Md-D)	34	16	820,943
Windsor Castle (WV-D)	61	26	790,428
Imagining (Md)	46	17	790,351
Warrior's Reward (Pa)	70	24	721,436
Blofeld (Md)	17	13	600,589
Uptowncharlybrown (Pa)	38	11	519,065
Friesan Fire (Md)	36	14	495,857
Peace and Justice (Pa)	34	13	477,886
Buffum (Md-D)	25	10	442,853
Holy Boss (Md)	27	8	413,847

2-year-old earnings

Sire	*strs*	*wnrs*	*earnings*
†Sea Wizard (NJ)	2	1	$56,350
Holy Boss (Md)	3	1	30,562
Kobe's Back (Md)	1	1	23,685
Friesan Fire (Md)	1	0	23,520
Uptowncharlybrown (Pa)	4	0	19,226

† Freshman sire

Early runners push Sea Wizard to quick start in New Jersey

Monmouth Park hosted its first 2-year-old races of 2022 June 4 and foals of New Jersey freshman sire Sea Wizard took part in both thanks to owner/breeder Holly Crest Farm.

Carats Forever finished third in the day's second race, for fillies. Four races later the colt Great Navigator rallied from third going 4½ furlongs to pull a 17-1 upset for trainer Eddie Owens Jr. The winner is the first foal for Holly Crest's homebred winning mare All Even (by Stephen Got Even).

Holly Crest owner Vincent Annarella doesn't own Sea Wizard, who stands at Colonial Farms in Colts Neck, but supported the stallion from the start, said Colonial Farms' patriarch Sam Fieramosca. The connection was John Mazza, Holly Crest's trainer for nearly 60 years. Mazza described Sea Wizard as one of the fastest horses he trained.

Sea Wizard bred a dozen mares in 2019, about half from Holly Crest. Sea Wizard's first winner shares a name with one of Mazza's best, winner of the 1992 Hopeful Stakes-G1 and three other stakes for Roron Stable. The previous Great Navigator (by Gulch) also launched his career with a win at Monmouth Park.

A son of champion and top sire Uncle Mo, Sea Wizard made just two starts—a second to future graded stakes winner Destin as a 2-year-old in 2015 and a Gulfstream Park maiden win the following year.

The first foal out of the stakes-winning Tale of the Cat mare Sea Road, 9-year-old Sea Wizard descends from the female line of Bourtai through her champion daughter Bayou. Second dam, three-time stakes winner Packet (by Polish Navy), also produced Great Intentions, a multiple graded stakes winner of $425,272. Sea Road is also a half-sister to the dam of Grade 1 winner Karlovy Vary and granddam to millionaire Mean Mary.

Fieramosca said Mazza, who passed away in May 2020 at age 82, liked Sea Wizard's stallion potential.

"He's got the credentials," the trainer told him.

– Cindy Deubler

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Ironfist

MAGGIE KIMMITT

Ironfist enjoys a visit from former Voss employee M.J. Kirwan (left) and owner Dorian Filbert.

His Jockey Club name comes from sire Iron and dam Miss List, but whoever christened Ironfist, now 29, could not have been more prophetic. Bred by Gordie Keys' Oatland Farm, he was foaled in Maryland May 5, 1993, and aimed straight for a steeplechase career.

For Keys' daughter Chrissy and her husband Bay Cockburn, Ironfist made four point-to-point starts over hurdles in 1997. Switched to timber the next year, the chestnut won two of three–again strictly on the point-to-point circuit. Aboard Ironfist for a win in the 4-mile Eustis Cup at the Loudoun Hunt Point-to-Point in mid-April, Cockburn was paralyzed in a fall two weeks later and Ironfist went on the market as a timber prospect.

Dorian and Harry Filbert, riding high on the success of their 1998 Maryland Hunt Cup winner Florida Law (co-owned by Francis Knott), looked to add to their stable with Tom Voss. Florida Law set a high bar, with that Hunt Cup win and placings in four prior editions. A few weeks after that 1998 Hunt Cup, the Filberts attended the Black-Eyed Susan Stakes at Pimlico Race Course and bumped into fellow Voss clients Warren and Karen Dempsey.

"We told Warren we were looking for another timber prospect," Dorian said. "He said there was a horse in Virginia that had beaten their horse just recently, and his regular rider and trainer, Bay Cockburn, had just had a terrible accident."

Dorian knew Keys from foxhunting, made a phone call and confirmed the horse's availability. Ironfist came for a trial with Voss, which Dorian remembered as a complete disaster.

She told Voss, "Well, I guess we'll send him back to Virginia."

"Why the hell would you do that?" Voss replied, as only he could.

The future Hall of Famer was known for seeing things others didn't. And that day, he saw something. Ironfist ran four times in 1999–seconds at Marlborough Point-to-Point and in his first National Steeplechase Association starts at My Lady's Manor and the Virginia Gold Cup, and a season-ending sixth at Radnor.

Everything changed the following spring as Ironfist won four times–capped by stakes victories in the My Lady's Manor, Mason Houghland Memorial and New Jersey Hunt Cup–en route to the NSA timber championship and champion Maryland-bred steeplechaser honors. In 2001, Ironfist backed up that campaign with another perfect run, going 3-for-3 with a second Manor, the Virginia Gold Cup and a win at the Colonial Cup to help Voss sew up a second consecutive NSA training title. Ironfist made it eight in a row when he won the Manor, again, in 2002. The streak ended with a second in the Virginia Gold Cup, and Ironfist made what turned out to be his final start when he lost jockey Roger Horgan in October's International Gold Cup.

Horgan called Ironfist a milestone horse.

"Ironfist had a huge bearing on my career," he said. "It was such an honor to get the call on him the first time [in 2000]," he said. "I was still an amateur, so I was able to ride him in the My Lady's Manor. And it was an impossible task, because [runner-up] Saluter was a monster. We somehow pulled it off. I have never sat on a horse that has a will to win like Ironfist had. He was just spectacular."

Longtime Voss employee M.J. Kirwan handled many of the trainer's top runners, including Eclipse champion Slip Away. Ironfist remains her favorite. Before racing, he was laid back almost to the point of disinterest. He'd walk calmly and pause frequently to take in the activity. During a pre-race interview one Saturday, someone asked Kirwan what Ironfist was thinking.

"I said he was thinking about how he was going to go out there and kick some butt," she said. "He loved racing. It was the thing that gave him confidence. It brought him out of his shell."

Horgan, who moved from jump racing to a long career on the racetrack as an exercise rider and assistant trainer, credited Voss, Kirwan and the

atmosphere at the farm for combining to make a timber star.

"When Ironfist first came to Tom, he was a big-framed horse, but there wasn't a lot to him," Horgan said. "And he was very nervous. But I think between the environment at Atlanta Hall Farm and the amazing care from M.J., he just found a niche where he was happy. And he absolutely blossomed."

Horgan called the 2002 Manor, where Ironfist became the historic race's third three-time winner, as a favorite moment–just for the road that got them there.

Out for hack with Voss before Christmas 2001, Ironfist was injured when a cornstalk pierced a spot just behind the knee. The ordeal included a nasty infection, two surgeries and an extended stay at New Bolton Center. Returning from Florida in late February, Horgan was concerned.

"I remember walking in and seeing him and going, 'We're in a bit of trouble here,'" he said. "He wasn't himself."

He was by April and put together another front-running display to edge Maipo by a head.

"He had absolutely no right to win it, and he did for the third year in a row," Horgan said. "If you took him on early, you had no chance. If you left him alone early, you had no chance. He could go quick, and this guy was an accurate, brilliant jumper. He answered every single question you asked of him."

Ironfist's anticipated second career as a family foxhunter was less than stellar. In short, he despised it.

"He was terrible," Dorian said. "Wouldn't stand still, jigged the whole time, rooted. He was a real pain to hunt."

Horgan understands. At the beginning of each season, Voss would have him ride Ironfist "out hunting for about an hour" to get him ready.

"It was the worst hour of my year, every year," Horgan said. "I hated it. He hated it. It was torture. He wouldn't stand for two seconds; he had no patience with it. He was saying 'This nonsense with the dogs running around, I don't want any part of it.'"

Nearly 20 years after Ironfist's retirement, all is forgiven. He's the VIP at the Filberts' Golden Quarters Farm, where Dorian carries on feeding him Fuji apples Harry Filbert religiously gave him.

"Only Fuji, because they're the sweetest," she said.

Ironfist's life has coincided with heartbreaking blows–Cockburn's injury, the loss of Florida Law in a lightning strike in 2000, the death of his first sanctioned-winning rider, Jonathan Kiser, at 22 a few months later, the deaths of Cockburn and Voss in 2014, and Harry Filbert in 2019.

But Ironfist perseveres, a fixture on the farm with his wins, his reputation, those apples–and a home for life.

"Horses come up this driveway," Dorian Filbert said, "but they rarely ever go back down." ◆

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TOD MARKS

A long road to Old Hilltop

Uncle Lew wrote a letter, a few actually, and received actual responses. And soon I was in a Subaru, or maybe it was a pick-up truck, headed south on I-95 with Josh Pons. We took the old tunnel, went to Laurel Park and the Bowie Library. We talked about racing, writing, horses, people. I'm embarrassed at what I told him I was reading—newspaper sports sections mainly, and some dumb books.

But Pons helped put me on the path to writing this column.

That first meeting led to a story—a really short story—about the racing books in the Selima Room (part of that Bowie Library) in *The Blood-Horse* magazine and then a longer story about Due North in the March 1992 edition of *The Maryland Horse*.

I thought of those moments—and a million more—when Dave Joseph of the Maryland Jockey Club told me I would receive the Old Hilltop Award for covering racing with "excellence and distinction" at this year's Preakness. The honor, given since 1976 to journalistic giants Red Smith, Shirley Povich, Jack Whitaker and Jim McKay just to name a few, still feels somewhat foreign to me.

My career? Excellence and distinction? Now? OK, but wow. You sure there wasn't someone else to honor?

I'm the third editor of this magazine, or its precursor *The Maryland Horse*, to receive the Old Hilltop after Snowden Carter (1980) and his daughter Lucy Acton (2006). Vinnie Perrone, a regular contributor to the magazine, was honored in 1998. My uncle probably wrote a letter to Carter. I wrote for Acton. And I have the privilege of working with Perrone. It's a strange feeling, and a testament to this magazine you're reading. People have been trying to give it excellence and distinction since the beginning.

I'm sure it's the same for every honoree, but a slew of people helped make it happen for me. Uncle Lew and Pons for sure. Katy Voss for talking to me about Due North all those years ago. My father was a trainer, so was his father. My grandfather was a journalist who wrote mainly about the outdoors, hunting and fishing. His brother Lew Waggaman lived just outside Baltimore and did design and advertising work for some of the Maryland stud farms. He knew Pons, writer/photographer/editor Peter Winants and others. I'm sure my uncle, actually my mom's uncle, referred to me as "Joey" in those letters, but somehow Pons didn't dismiss me. I was 26, not 12.

At the University of Delaware, professors Chuck Stone and Bill Fleischman let me know I could actually do this. Early bosses Dennis Forney and Trish Vernon at *The Whale* newspaper in Delaware and Don Herring at the *Cecil Whig* in Maryland, where I was working when Uncle Lew sent those letters, put up with some dumb mistakes. My beats spanned the genres of a pumpkin chunking contest, a teenager's murder trial, fishing tournaments, high-school basketball, county council meetings and everything in between.

My brother Sean and friend Tom Law (either of whom could have received the Old Hilltop before I did) make me better every day. Mom told me to read. Dad told me to work hard, and to appreciate horses.

Lonnie Fuller, a racetrack groom with few peers, taught me plenty about life, horses, people and how to "act like you've been here before" on the way to the winner's circle no matter what the horse's odds were (Dandy Danny, Laurel Park, 1984, 26-1). Man, I wish Lonnie lived long enough to call me when he heard about the Old Hilltop.

By now, I've interviewed countless breeders, owners, trainers and jockeys about horses. Despite the photo on this page I guess I've never interviewed a horse, but sometimes it feels like I have. Due North (look him up, he ran 106 times) was early. More recently, I hung out with Penn Mile winner Wow Whata Summer (kind of grumpy if you really want to know).

Preakness-specific, I covered my first in 1990 when Summer Squall won. I remember Howie Tesher's sadness after Champagneforashley got hurt training a few days before the race. I was at Pimlico in 1991 (Hansel) and asked jockey Jerry Bailey whose idea it was to advance early on the final turn. Bailey paid full credit to Hansel. More recently, I walked to the paddock with trainer Art Sherman before California Chrome won in 2014. The man was as humble as his horse was good. After Exaggerator won in 2016, Kent Desormeaux told me to follow him to the jocks' room. He poured about an inch of champagne into a cup, took a tiny sip and then told me what it was like to win a Triple Crown race with your brother. Two years ago, Kenny McPeek let me hang out with Swiss Skydiver while he hosed her legs the day before the Preakness. Then she won. Magic. Last year, Michael McCarthy brought me in the stall with Rombauer. Then he won. More magic.

So sure, I received the Old Hilltop Award. But the real winners are the horses and the people who took me there. Thank you. ◆

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Big Tally

Early Voting gives Klarman, Brown second victory in Preakness Stakes

By Tom Law

Chad Brown knew exactly what to do with Early Voting last fall, first at Saratoga Race Course with just about all the leaves on the ground and later at Belmont Park with long shadows and chilly afternoons.

Unlike some of his more heralded stablemates–Jack Christopher, Zandon, Gerrymander, Portfolio Company and Consumer Spending for starters–Early Voting had yet to make a start despite making an impression. Brown described the son of leading freshman sire Gun Runner as "big, handsome, burley," and "like a bar fighter," but didn't want to take the late developing colt out of his routine. So, when it came time to shuffle his sizable stable's deck–with the perceived "A String" going south to Florida and Payson Park Training Center–Brown opted to keep Early Voting in New York for the winter.

"I didn't want to interrupt his schedule," Brown said. "Sometimes you ship horses down to Florida that are just getting started, and then you have to adjust to, ironically, the humidity and heat and such, when he is just getting going. The weather looked good, so I left him there."

A similar decision worked five years before with Cloud Computing, like Early Voting owned by Seth Klarman's Klaravich Stable. Brown left Cloud Computing in New York for the winter of 2017 with Klarman's blessing and that colt thrived enough to go from a debut maiden winner in February to classic winner by May.

Early Voting pulled off a similar feat, repaying his connections with maturity and enough professionalism from his morning lessons to win his debut going a mile at Aqueduct in December. He added the Withers Stakes-G3 in early February. And a little more than three months later he repaid them again with a classic victory in his fourth start, winning the 147th Preakness Stakes-G1 in front of a "reimagined" sweat-soaked crowd of more than 60,000 at Baltimore's Pimlico Race Course and millions more watching from afar May 21.

Early Voting and jockey Jose Ortiz held off the late run of favorite and Kentucky Derby-G1 runner-up Epicenter (Joel Rosario) to win the $1.65 million stakes by 1¼ lengths. Creative Minister, an allowance winner on Derby Day at Churchill Downs making his stakes debut, finished 2¼ lengths back in third with Kentucky Oaks-G1 winner Secret Oath fourth. Early Voting won in 1:54.54 over the fast track in temperatures above 90 degrees for most of the stakes-laden card.

The victory came after Klarman and Brown made the decision to bypass the Kentucky Derby despite having enough points (courtesy of a second in the Wood Memorial-G2 April 9) to run in the opening jewel of the Triple Crown.

"He is just a really cool horse to be around," Brown said. "I'm so proud of him. He really did all the work. He came over here in his fourth start, and he stepped on to the turf course, and there's everything going on; there's bands, there's this and that. I didn't know how he was going to take it, and I'm so proud of the horse that he kept his composure, and he did exactly what we trained him to do."

Skipping the Derby

Brown, already a four-time Eclipse Award winner and potential first-ballot Hall of Famer when his time comes, wants to win the Kentucky Derby. He considers himself a "student of the race," and has sent out horses to finish second, third and fourth from seven starters since 2013. Unlike some, however, Brown isn't one to force a square peg into a round hole when it comes to the Derby.

Cloud Computing earned enough points to make the gate in 2017 and didn't run. Early Voting earned even more points–50 to 40 thanks to his efforts in the Withers and the Wood–and also didn't run.

The final decision came the day before entries were due, although Brown hinted at the possibility he'd skip the race days before, telling media in Louisville "the horse is still at Belmont, if that tells you anything."

"Sometimes it's not pretty," Brown said of running in the Derby. "Those horses need time physically or mentally, and it can really cost a good part of your 3-year-old year if you swing and miss. You could ship

Early Voting and Jose Ortiz lead favorite Epicenter to the finish of the Preakness Stakes at Pimlico in May.

all the way over there, draw terrible, the weather. You name it."

Early Voting's defection set in motion a scenario that led to arguably the most shocking outcome in Kentucky Derby history. Keeping Early Voting at Belmont to await the Preakness allowed Pioneer of Medina to make the top 20 for the Derby. The defection of Un Ojo the morning entries were due allowed Ethereal Road to also make the field. Ethereal Road was scratched before wagering opened the day before—before the Kentucky Oaks-G1 card started—and that allowed Rich Strike to draw in off the also-eligible list.

The Derby unfolded with a Quarter Horse-fast pace set by Summer Is Tomorrow and Crown Pride (Jpn), which Early Voting likely would have been caught up in and cooked, to set up Rich Strike's come-from-behind win at 80-1. Brown finished third in the race with Zandon, beaten 1½ lengths, and he immediately knew the decision to pass with Early Voting was correct.

"This horse just didn't have the experience," Brown said. "He is out there on loose leads. He didn't have dirt in his face

Trainer Chad Brown (right) greets Early Voting on the turf course after the Preakness victory.

really. A nice horse, but to throw him in a 20-horse field would not have worked out well for him. It really wasn't that hard of a decision."

Early Voting stayed at Belmont–where he'd been since leaving Saratoga when Brown closed his barn on the Oklahoma side in early November–while 10 of his stablemates won or placed in nine stakes over the Oaks/Derby weekend. He breezed 5 furlongs over the Belmont main track in 1:02.03 the morning of the Oaks, before Brown tightened him up with another 5-furlong move in a bullet 1:00.63 in company with 2021 Travers Stakes-G1-placed three-time winner Miles D.

Ortiz was aboard for the work, and clockers caught Early Voting getting his last quarter in just over 24 seconds and galloping out 6 furlongs in 1:13.

Brown called the gallop out "super" and Ortiz showed up for Preakness Weekend filled with confidence.

"I knew my horse was ready. Chad had him ready," Ortiz said. "He has been working with a very good horse . . . a player on the older division, and we've been working with him. Honestly, he has been working unbelievable. Like I say, they deserve all the credit. They passed on the Derby. Not a lot of people would do it, and it paid off."

Path to Success

Rich Strike's connections opted to pass on the Preakness, deciding more than a week before the Triple Crown's second jewel to instead wait five weeks for the Belmont Stakes-G1. Brown also kept Derby third Zandon out, but Steve Asmussen went ahead with runner-up Epicenter. They were joined by fellow Derby runners Simplification (fourth) and Happy Jack (14th).

Secret Oath, winner of the Kentucky Oaks and trying to become D. Wayne Lukas' seventh Preakness winner, joined the fray along with Derby Day allowance winner Creative Minister, Santa

Anita Derby-G1 fourth Armagnac, Wood Memorial third Skippylongstocking and maiden winner Fenwick to make it a field of nine.

Bettors hammered Epicenter down to 6-5 by post time on a sweltering Baltimore afternoon replete with B-2 Spirit Stealth Bomber flyover, thumping bass Infield Fest performances by The Chainsmokers and other Millennial and Generation Z favored acts and all the usual libations. Secret Oath, looking to join Swiss Skydiver and Rachel Alexandra as fillies to win the Preakness in the modern era, came next at 5-1 with Early Voting the third choice at almost 6-1 and Simplification at 8-1.

Early Voting broke sharp from post five as Armagnac cleared from seven. Epicenter started a half-step slow, lost position and was eighth going into the first turn. Asmussen, who marveled before the Preakness that Epicenter had done everything in the Derby "except win," could barely watch.

"You've got to leave the gates," the perplexed trainer said on the track after the race. They go 24-and-1. . . First time by, you saw where he was. I was past surprised, I was disappointed. When they throw up 24-and-1 and you're that far back, with a horse that obviously has pace. . . He just gave him too much to do."

The race's early stages didn't leave Epicenter and Rosario much choice. The slow break hurt, but he lost even more ground when pinched between Skippylongstocking and Happy Jack coming to the wire the first time. Rosario steadied, and got to the inside–eighth of nine–while the race unfolded. Ortiz let Early Voting do his thing, tracking Armagnac, a recent transfer to trainer Tim Yakteen while his former boss Bob Baffert waited out a suspension dating to the 2021 Kentucky Derby and Medina Spirit's medication issues. An allowance winner 13 days earlier, Armagnac led the way on an open lead through splits of :24.32 and :47.44.

"He is a very good horse out of the gate," Ortiz said of Early Voting. "He always has been. He broke well, and that was the main thing. Break good. Go forward. We knew that Armagnac had speed . . . we knew he was probably going to the lead and he did."

Just when it looked like Armagnac might be able to find a comfort zone, Ortiz gave Early Voting a little more rein. Second, in the clear and awaiting a cue up the backside, Early Voting ranged alongside Armagnac with about a half-mile to go. Oaks winner Secret Oath tried to match the move from the outside. Epicenter still toiled toward the back and inside, waiting for a chance while seventh on the turn.

Owner Seth Klarman, who grew up in Baltimore, heads to the winner's circle with his wife Beth.

Ortiz asked for more near the end of the turn. Early Voting responded, rolled past Armagnac off the turn and led by a length passing the quarter pole. Ortiz looked over his right shoulder for a threat as Epicenter finally found room and enough energy to mount a proper rally along the rail. Ortiz said after he didn't realize Epicenter got away slow and that he was looking for Secret Oath late.

Checked sharply and trailing in last early, and running four wide on the turn, Secret Oath made it to third at the top of the stretch, but the late run that landed her the Oaks never came as Early Voting blasted past Armagnac off the turn to open up 3½ lengths in mid-stretch. Ortiz left plenty in the tank to hold off Epicenter's too-late rally. Creative Minister finished third, followed by Secret Oath, Skippylongstocking, Simplification, Armagnac, Happy Jack and Fenwick.

"This race is a dream come true for any rider, you know? It's a Triple Crown race," said Ortiz. "Already won the Belmont, but I've never won the Preakness before. We were very close with Good Magic. I still feel he was the best horse in the race that day, but it was crazy conditions and fog, sloppy. And honestly, I didn't have the best trip."

This year was different.

"I had the trip I wanted," he said. "We planned it out, we executed [it] with perfection and we came out top."

Lessons Learned

Ortiz won his first Preakness in his fifth ride in the race, with his best prior finish a fourth aboard Good Magic in Justify's 2018 victory through the rain and fog. He admitted that Good Magic didn't get the best of trips that day but made amends in 2022 with a colt who didn't exactly give off the impression he'd give the leading rider his second classic victory.

Walking back to the jockeys' room after the post-race press conference, after the final race of the day was run and the heavy bass from the infield died down, Ortiz remembered the first time he saw Early Voting one fall morning at Brown's Belmont barn.

"The first time I got on him, I walked in the shedrow at Chad's, saw him and thought he looked good," Ortiz said. "Then while he was walking, the next thing I knew he'd knocked off every bucket that was hanging up in the shed."

JERRY DZIENWINSKI

With Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan and Baltimore Mayor Brandon Scott looking on from the infield winner's stand, team Early Voting pauses for a victory moment.

Ortiz hesitated for a beat, took a look around and asked, "I'm getting on him?"

That opinion changed after that first breeze on Belmont's main track, and maybe even before the 2017 Eclipse Award-winning jockey put the big dark bay colt through his paces.

"He was different though once I got on him, acted completely different," said Ortiz, who offered Brown some immediate feedback.

"This is a nice horse," the jockey told the trainer. "He just might need time."

He got plenty.

Early Voting ran to his works—three bullets in 11 breezes at Saratoga and Belmont—and won his debut going 1 mile at Aqueduct Dec. 18 with Ortiz aboard. Ortiz spent much of the winter in South Florida riding at Gulfstream Park, but was still able to return to New York to breeze Early Voting and ride him to victory in the Withers-G3 at Aqueduct Feb. 5.

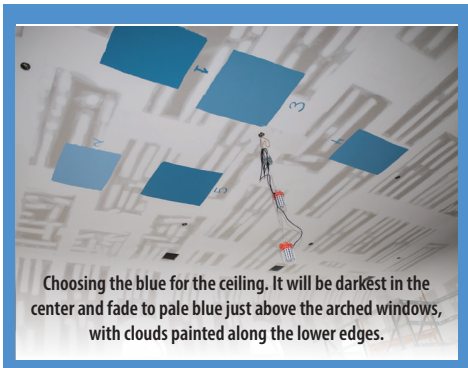
Ortiz also rode Zandon, who spent the winter at Payson Park, in the Risen Star-G2 at Fair Grounds Feb. 19. Brown wanted to keep Zandon and Early Voting separate after the Withers and Risen Star, and opted to send the former to Keeneland for the Blue Grass-G1 and keep the latter in New York for the Wood Memorial-G2. Brown also made the call to keep Ortiz on Early Voting while giving the mount on Zandon to Flavien Prat.

"Boss, I'll go where you tell me to go," Ortiz told Brown when informed of the decision.

Brown, who has teamed with Jose Ortiz and his older brother Irad Ortiz Jr. for scores of stakes wins, came away impressed.

"It's hard to be taken off Zandon when they're on the same day because we knew that horse was probably going to go win the Blue Grass and go to the Derby as one of the favorites," Brown said. "That's how he is. He said, 'I'll go where you tell me to go.' He didn't win the Wood [missing by a neck to Mo Donegal], but it's our feeling that's his horse. He went there for us that day, and that's going to remain his horse. It was never even a thought after the horse got beat to make a change.

"He went up there and rode him for us, and he rode him brilliantly. I want to point that out. Talk about being a team player. He doesn't give me any trouble with those conversations, and he is very nice to work with that way."



Choosing the blue for the ceiling. It will be darkest in the center and fade to pale blue just above the arched windows, with clouds painted along the lower edges.

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When the barrel-vaulted ceiling was discovered in the deconstruction phase, the decision was made to preserve it.

Zandon did indeed win the Blue Grass, and finished third in the Derby with Prat while Jose Ortiz finished fourth on Simplification. Two weeks later in the Preakness, the jockey stuck with Early Voting while John Velazquez took the mount on Simplification.

Second Happy Homecoming

Ortiz added the Preakness to his 2017 Belmont Stakes-G1 victory aboard Tapwrit. Brown and Klarman, who co-owned Cloud Computing with former longtime partner Bill Lawrence, now have two classics in Klarman's hometown of Baltimore.

Klarman grew up three blocks from Pimlico, on Whitney Avenue in Mt. Washington, and went to the races at Old Hilltop while attending Baltimore Polytechnic Institute high school. A graduate of Cornell University and Harvard University, Klarman founded the Boston-based private investment partnership Baupost Group in the 1980s.

Klarman dipped his toe into racehorse ownership long before he became a billionaire–he jokes that his wife Beth made him sleep on the couch after buying into his first horse–but he's on board in a big way now. Originally formed with Klarman's friend Jeff Ravich, Klaravich is perennially a leading owner, with an Eclipse Award as such in 2019, and has campaigned champion Bricks and Mortar, two classic winners and dozens of other stars.

Klarman bought Early Voting for $200,000 at the 2020 Keeneland September sale, the same price he paid for Cloud Computing at the same auction in 2015. Nearly all of the horses that carry his red and white colors fall in that price range, and Klarman uses a team that includes Brown, Mike and Mary Ryan, Niall Brennan and Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital's Dr. Scott and Debbie Pierce.

"We have a great team," Klarman said. "Chad goes to the sales. Chad works with the team that he has assembled at the sales. We have a long list. We narrow it down to a short list. The horse needs to have a decent pedigree, needs to be physically a horse that we think will be able to handle training and be healthy. It has to be in the right price range. We're not going to pay any amount for a horse. When you meet those three criteria, there's a chance we'll buy at the sale."

Gonçalo Borges Torrealba's Three Chimneys Farm bred Early Voting. A son of 2021 leading freshman sire, Horse of the Year and $15,988,500-earner Gun Runner, he's the third foal out of the unraced Tiznow mare Amour d'Ete. The first foal, the now 6-year-old Distorted Humor mare Shocking Fast, won for Three Chimneys and Asmussen. Her second foal, the winning Super Saver filly named Caught Looking, sold for $75,000 at the 2019 Keeneland September sale. She's also the dam of a 2-year-old full-sister to Early Voting named Isn't She Sweet. One step backward, Early Voting's pedigree gets deeper than the Chesapeake Bay as Amour d'Ete is a half-sister to leading sire Speightstown, West Virginia stallion star Fiber Sonde and Grade 2 winner Irap.

Early Voting earned $990,000 for the victory, which came on Klarman's 65th birthday, to boost his bankroll to $1,311,500 from three wins and a second in four starts.

"You know, I've lived my adult life in Boston, but it's an incredible experience to come back to my hometown and have a chance to compete at this level," Klarman said. "It's one of the highlights of a career owning racehorses. A really extraordinary feeling." ◆

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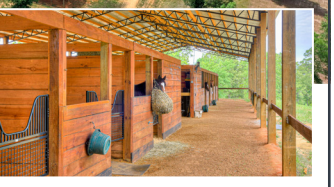
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Perfect Timing

Interstatedaydream flourishes in six-week stretch before Black-Eyed Susan victory

By Tom Law

Seconds after Keeneland's Ashland Stakes-G1 ended, Staton Flurry turned to Brad Cox to set a course for Interstatedaydream.

"Let's point to the Black-Eyed Susan," the owner told Cox, who trains the Ontario-bred daughter of Classic Empire for his Flurry Racing Stables.

Four weeks and two days later, Flurry took a call from Cox.

"Man, she's breezing like a monster," the trainer said after the 3-year-old filly drilled 5 furlongs in a bullet 1:00.40 May 8. "She breezed the best breeze out of the barn, and we breezed some really nice horses."

Less than two weeks later Flurry stood on the winner's stand at Pimlico Race Course, alongside Baltimore Mayor Brandon Scott, Maryland First Lady Yumi Hogan and others to celebrate Interstatedaydream's victory in the $250,000 George E. Mitchell Black-Eyed Susan Stakes-G2 May 20. Interstatedaydream and Florent Geroux tracked the early speed, took over in the stretch and ran off to a 1¼-length victory over Adare Manor in 1:48.73.

"We knew going in she was training really, really well," said Flurry, who also co-owns 2020 Kentucky Oaks-G1 winner Shedaresthedevil. "It was all about getting her up there, getting a nice post. The nine worked for us. I really thought there would be some more speed in the race, maybe four or five in front of us, but it didn't work out that way. Coming for home it looked like everybody behind us had already started scrubbing on their horses, trying to make a move, and nobody was going anywhere. Flo hadn't touched her so I thought, 'We've got this.'"

Interstatedaydream breezed an eighth in :10⅕ at the 2021 OBS April sale, impressing Flurry and his buying team led by Clay Scherer.

"From the first time she breezed and was pulling up, he's been telling me 'We've got to buy this filly, she's the best horse in the sale,'" said Flurry, a 31-year-old native and resident of Hot Springs, Ark. "He kept up on it, all throughout the week, through the vetting, the showing, everything, telling me, 'We've got to buy this Classic Empire filly.' We got her for a whole lot cheaper than we thought she was going to go for."

Purchased for $175,000, Interstatedaydream made quick impressions. She won a 5½-furlong maiden at Belmont Park two months after the sale and followed up with a second in the Adirondack-G2 at Saratoga Race Course. Cox put the filly on the shelf to let her grow into her frame and come back with the Kentucky Oaks as the ultimate goal.

That plan derailed when races in February didn't fill and Interstatedaydream didn't make her 2022 debut until mid-March. She rolled to an 8¼-length allowance victory at Oaklawn. The win proved Interstatedaydream's potential and created some goals.

"We talked about running her back in the Fantasy, but that was three weeks," said Flurry. "The Ashland was four weeks and that still was a little close. But the way she ran we thought she deserved a shot to get some Oaks points."

Interstatedaydream finished third, beaten by eventual Oaks runner-up Nest, in the Ashland. The Black-Eyed Susan loomed in six weeks, just the right amount of time in Cox's mind.

"She just wasn't ready for it," he said of the Oaks. "It would have been back a little too quick, throwing too much at her too quick. I thought this made the most sense."

Sent off at 6-1, third choice behind Adare Manor and Distinctlypossible and just ahead of local favorite Luna Belle, Interstatedaydream improved to 3-for-5 and picked up $150,000 to boost her bankroll to $351,225. She'll most likely get the chance to add to it this summer, with options that could even include the Queen's Plate Stakes against males or Canadian Oaks against 3-year-old fillies – both restricted to Canadian-breds at Woodbine.

"Now we've won the Oaks and we've won the Black-Eyed Susan," Flurry said of his stable. "Now I guess we need to find something to win one of the races in New York . . . Maybe we'll be piecing together the trophies for something like our own Triple Tiara. Seriously though, it's cool to have fillies of that quality to win races like that. We're really proud of her."

Very 'Quick'

Norm Casse looked forward to the day he could run Super Quick beyond a one-

JIM DULEY

Trained by Brad Cox for Flurry Racing Stables, Interstatedaydream leads Adare Manor late in the Black-Eyed Susan Stakes at Pimlico.

turn sprint back in the fall of 2020. The daughter of Super Saver fared well in her first two starts—at 5 and 6 furlongs—and even better in her third.

"If you go back and look at it, the first time we stretched her out she got beat by Clairiere right on the wire," Casse said of a half-length loss to the eventual multiple Grade 1 winner. "So, her first route race was a legitimately nice route race."

Super Quick's next start, and next try at two turns, didn't come for nearly eight months and didn't go nearly as well. She finished fifth, fourth via disqualification, beaten 15 lengths, only to return to one turn next time where she again finished fifth at Saratoga Race Course. Casse went back to two turns and Super Quick has won four of six, the latest a victory in the $150,000 Allaire duPont Distaff-G3 to lead off the Black-Eyed Susan Day stakes.

"The funny thing about this filly, she trains hard, but I can never seem to get her ready off a layoff," Casse said. "[Two of her three] races off layoffs have been terrible. Embarrassing I would describe them, but then she rounds back into form. She's a filly I would say likes racing."

Super Quick liked racing on the front end in the duPont, clicking off strong fractions while cruising to a 14¼-length win over 3-2 favorite Exotic West. Geroux rode the 2-1 third choice for Marylou Whitney Stables. Super Quick improved to 4-for-11 with $347,649 in earnings.

"She's better where she can get comfortable early," Casse said. "I've been lobbying for a couple months to finally get her in a 9-furlong race. Conventional wisdom would say the stretch out might make it a bit more difficult, but I think it's easier for her because she can get into more of a relaxed rhythm."

Destination Ascot

Celebrity chef Bobby Flay went to Royal Ascot in 2011, not to cook but as an owner.

Flay's More Than Real, winner of the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf-G1, finished second-last in the Coronation Stakes-G1. Flay got a vintage top hat and the experience, along with the appetite to return. Pizza Bianca provided that opportunity, first with the Breeders' Cup score at Del Mar and then with a handy prep victory in the $100,000 Hilltop Stakes at Pimlico.

"They say these horses can bring you on wonderful experiences and to me that's what it's all about," Flay said after Jose Ortiz rode his homebred daughter of Australian champion Fastnet Rock to a 1¾-length victory over stablemate Diamond Hands in the 1-mile Hilltop. The win was Pizza Bianca's third in five starts, to go with two seconds.

More Than Real went to Ascot with similar form—two wins in three starts but without a prep—and finished 27 lengths back in a field of 12. Not that Flay minded too much.

JERRY DZIERWINSKI

Super Quick makes it look easy while nearing the finish of a 14¼-length romp in the Allaire duPont.

JIM MCCUE

First Captain gets up in time to win the Pimlico Special by a head over Vindictive.

"She didn't run well, it was a very boggy racecourse," he said. "It doesn't matter. When I say it doesn't matter it's because it's an amazing experience."

Flay and trainer Christophe Clement picked the Hilltop for Pizza Bianca's prep because of its spacing to the June 17 Coronation. Pizza Bianca finished second to Consumer Spending in the April 24 Memories of Silver at Aqueduct in her first start of 2022.

"We were just getting her started," Flay said. "You just don't turn the switch on with these horses. She had a huge performance in the Breeders' Cup. Christophe wanted to give her the winter off and then we brought her back slowly. . . It wasn't about winning [the Memories of Silver]. It's a nice race but it's a listed stake. We already won a Grade 1. It was about getting her legs going again. This one, we wanted to sharpen her up a bit because now we're four weeks out."

First Captain gutsy in Pimlico Special

First Captain raised expectations from the outset as a sales-topping $1.5 million yearling at Fasig-Tipton Saratoga in 2019, then didn't race as a 2-year-old. His stock rose again last year as he won his first three starts–a maiden, an allowance and the Dwyer Stakes-G3–all at Belmont Park. The chestnut looked like a potential player in the Travers-G1 at Saratoga until he finished third as the favorite in a prep and missed the rest of 2021.

Back on the upswing this year, he won a Gulfstream Park allowance and looked to continue the climb in the Carter-G1 at Belmont in April. Seventh of seven there, he sent trainer Shug McGaughey back to his training charts. The Hall of Famer added blinkers, swapped jockey Jose Ortiz for Luis Saez and entered the 4-year-old Curlin colt in the 1 3/16-mile Pimlico Special-G3. Warmed up aggressively by Saez, First Captain responded with his best race–a head decision over even-money favorite Vindictive.

"I debated on the blinkers last year after the Curlin, but we didn't get that far," McGaughey said of the Saratoga Travers prep. "We trained him in them [at Belmont Park] and we liked what we saw. I saw him gallop here the other morning before he shipped and my thought was, 'If he runs the way he gallops, he's going to be pretty tough.' Obviously, he did."

Owned by West Point Thoroughbreds, Siena Farm, Woodford Racing and his breeder Flay, First Captain picked up $180,000 of the $300,000 purse to push his earnings to $470,100. Flay campaigned First Captain's second dam Lacadena and won two stakes and $580,532 with her daughter America. The latter's first foal, First Captain, was called "Curlin Jr." at the sale by consignor Arthur Hancock but didn't live up to the high-pressure nickname thanks to a soft-tissue injury as a 2-year-old.

Making up for the lost time, First Captain has impressed his trainer, who will continue to look for distance opportunities. The pace wasn't especially fast–:24.99, :49.80, 1:14.27–but First Captain still found a way to crank up a late rally.

"We were anxious to get him around two turns," McGaughey said. "I thought that one of the problems in the Carter was that maybe we were laying a little too close and he didn't have that kick. I wanted him back a little bit. It's going to be a little bit easier for him when he does get a pace. We'll just have to see from there."

JIM DULEY

Breeders' Cup winner Pizza Bianca charges to victory in the Hilltop, her final prep for a start in the Group 1 Coronation Stakes at England's Royal Ascot.

NOTES: Maryland-bred **Can the Queen** won the $100,000 The Very One Stakes for Joanne Shankle, trainer Rodolfo Sanchez-Salomon and breeder Carol Kaye. See the Maryland Horse section on page 45 for more . . . **Lady Scarlet** won the other stakes on the Friday card, the $150,000 Miss Preakness-G3 for Paradise Farms Corp. and David Staudacher and trainer Mike Maker. Irad Ortiz Jr. rode the winner, a daughter of Union Rags claimed for $150,000 at Churchill Downs last November. She has since earned more than $225,000. . . Trainer Brittany Russell doubled early on the day with a debut win by Maryland-bred 3-year-old Golden Lad filly **Run Raegan Run** for owner John Middleton and a first-level allowance romp by LNJ Foxwoods runner **Another Woman** . . . Pennsylvania-bred **Our Shot** won the opener for Gatsas Stables, Steven Schoenfeld and trainer John Terranova . . . Maryland-bred Uncle Lino gelding **Uncle Irish**, 10th behind multiple stakes winner Joe in last year's Maryland Juvenile Championship Stakes, won a $62,500 optional claimer for Morris Kernan Jr. and co-owner/trainer Jamie Ness. ◆

Ready Now

Maryland-bred Joe rewards patience with turf stakes win in Murphy

By Joe Clancy

The conversations between owner/breeder Stuart Grant and Donna Freyer of South Carolina's Custom Care Equine frequently involve Freyer not being quite ready to send a horse on to a trainer and Grant gently trying to figure out why.

Freyer will want a little more time with a horse and will list a reason or two. Grant will counter with something along the lines of, "They don't have to be perfect when they leave there."

Freyer knows that, but that's the goal, and Grant trusts her judgment. Especially when a horse turns out like Joe.

Late leaving Freyer's base in Camden last summer, the bay colt won the Maryland-bred 2-year-old male crown with two wins in three starts last year and has shown no signs of letting up as a 3-year-old. His latest step forward came in the $100,000 James W. Murphy Stakes three races before the Preakness at Pimlico Race Course May 21.

Breaking from the outside in an eight-horse field, Joe used long strides and a loose rein to find a spot on the rail in sixth as the field entered the first turn. From there, Victor Carrasco navigated a perfect trip. Joe came off the rail to move around Local Motive on the backside as Uncaptured Spirit and Epic Luck sped through early fractions of :22.85 and :45.85. Back along the rail on the final turn, Joe responded to cues from Carrasco and passed a tiring Epic Luck, Ready to Purrform and Crabs N Beer. Angled out from behind Uncaptured Spirit exiting the turn, Joe took a short lead at the top of the stretch but was tackled by Ready to Purrform to the outside. Joe responded, but the favorite got in front in mid-stretch only to have Joe answer that challenge with more energy and win by a neck in 1:35.26. Crabs N Beer, another Maryland-bred, finished third.

Bred and owned by Grant's The Elkstone Group, Joe won for the fifth time in seven starts and added a turf stakes to his victories in the Federico Tesio and Maryland Juvenile Championship on dirt.

"What a neat horse," said Grant. "This is the second stakes in a row where he was headed in the stretch and he just keeps fighting back. It's awesome that he does that. You sort of live for those. I've had my share of horses who just pack it in when they get headed. He digs in harder and harder."

Freyer couldn't see the future when she was puzzling over Joe's slow development a year earlier, but knew the colt deserved a chance to get it right. Grant would ask, "What's the matter with him?" Freyer would reply, "I don't know. He's just not quite there yet."

Joe kept training.

"He was really tight behind, like he was walking on a tightrope," Freyer said. "He never got any cut to his muscles, never had that definition you want. He was the kind who aggravated the riders in the stall, so they were grumbling when they got on him. I put a figure eight [noseband] on him just to make the riders happy. He was never unsound, never did anything all that wrong, I just think it was a matter of maturity. He's the old type of Thoroughbred. He needed to come along. He needs to learn by doing and you can see that from his races. Every race he gets a little better. They've done a great job bringing him along, not overfacing him, and getting him to where he is now."

Trained by Mike Trombetta, Joe finished fifth in his debut going 5½ furlongs on the turf at Laurel Park in late October. He won going a mile on the dirt in November, added the Maryland Juvenile going 7 furlongs in December and opened 2022 with a two-turn allowance win in January.

That last one sparked a handful of Triple Crown questions, but Trombetta and Grant resisted. Joe finished second in the Private Terms in March, then won the Tesio in April to put the Preakness on the table. Again, Trombetta and Grant stayed in the middle of the shedrow.

"We're trying to do the right thing for the horse," Trombetta said. "Stuart always said that if he wanted to be a good horse, he'd let him and give him a chance to prove it, but you know how it goes. Sometimes people reach and get rewarded and sometimes you reach a little far and it really takes its toll."

At some point Grant told his trainer, "You know, we're not going to the Preakness." Trombetta answered with a predictable, "That's probably a good choice."

Ineligible for the restricted Sir Barton, Joe went to the turf for the Murphy. Trombetta had been saying his horse had "a turf foot" for a while. Sire Declaration of War competed exclusively on turf and

The Elkstone Group's Maryland-bred Joe (right) digs in to fight off Ready to Purrform in the James W. Murphy Stakes.

all-weather tracks in Europe, and won two Group 1 stakes until finishing third in the 2013 Breeders' Cup Classic-G1. Dam Battle Bridge (by Arch) lost her two turf starts, but did score on Turfway Park's synthetic surface.

Trombetta tried to get a turf work at Laurel, but gave up after some weather delays and a jumbled schedule that included a half-mile breeze May 2 (a Monday), a 5-furlong move May 10 (a Tuesday) and a bullet half-mile May 16 (a Monday).

"He's either going to handle the turf or he isn't," the trainer told himself. "I didn't want to alter my schedule. Sometimes you try too hard."

Joe does enough trying for everybody. In the Tesio, he got headed in the stretch after building a 2½-length lead but dug in to win by a head. In the Murphy, the Brad Cox-trained Ready to Purrform took a big swing only to get denied by a neck.

"He was inexperienced on this surface and he kind of ran like he's been doing it for quite awhile," Trombetta said. "Most of the time when they get headed like he did by the horse on the outside, especially coming out of that kind of barn, it's hell to get back past them. We trained him pretty good up to this one and I'm glad we did. You need it against these good horses."

Foaled at Grant's C-Dog Farm in Chesapeake City, Joe is a half-brother to the Grade 3-placed eight-time winner Irony of Reality (by Animal Kingdom) and a credit to a long-tenured team including Bobby Goodyear and Michelle Walker on the farm and Bev Grovert at Kentucky's Windham Hill Farm before Freyer and Trombetta.

"He is a true homebred," said Grant. "Everyone who has touched him has worked for us for a long time."

Jaxon Traveler makes grade

West Point Thoroughbreds owns dozens of horses. Just one has the heart of Dawn Lenert, the racing partnership's chief marketing officer and director of partner relations.

"I know you're not supposed to fall in love with racehorses, but I can't help it," Lenert said of Jaxon Traveler, the Maryland-bred 4-year-old owned by West Point and Melvin Delfiner who became a graded stakes winner with a victory in the $150,000 Maryland Sprint-G3. "He always shows up. This horse never gives less than 110 percent. He's just honest. Everybody should be so lucky to have a horse like Jaxon Traveler."

Bred by Leonard and Pat Pineau, Jaxon Traveler joined West Point as a $140,000 juvenile purchase in 2020 and quickly set about building that reputation. He won his first three starts, including Laurel Park's Maryland Juvenile Futurity en route to the state-bred juvenile male crown. Last year, he won twice and didn't finish worse than third in nine starts to earn another state-bred championship. He opened 2022 with an uncharacteristic fifth in the Fire Plug

JIM DULEY

Maryland-bred Jaxon Traveler collects his first graded stakes win in the Maryland Sprint.

Stakes at Laurel Park in January, and came into Preakness Day off seconds in the Not For Love at Laurel and an allowance at Aqueduct.

Sent off as the 6-5 favorite in a field of six, Jaxon Traveler jumped right to the front from the outside post for Joel Rosario, won a brief tussle for the lead with War Tocsin and fought off Threes Over Deuces late to win by 1¾ lengths in 1:09.70 for 6 furlongs. War Tocsin stayed for third as second choice Disco Pharoah finished last after getting pinched at the break.

Trained by Steve Asmussen, Jaxon Traveler won for the sixth time in 16 starts while pushing his earnings to $571,310. The son of Munnings twice placed in Grade 3 stakes last year, so the breakthrough mattered.

"I'm so happy for him, he's a deserving graded stakes winner," said Lenert. "He got headed and he fought back. You never like to be that horse on the rail who gets headed like that, but he found another gear and got it done."

The Pineaus bought Jaxon Traveler's dam Listen Boy, a Maryland-bred who raced for Sagamore Farm, for $26,000 in 2015 in foal to Street Boss. Since then the daughter of After Market has produced additional winners My Legacy and My Candy Girl.

Horses Know

After Joy's Rocket stopped her losing streak at eight with a knockout punch over Maryland-bred Fille d'Esprit and six others in a gate-to-wire victory in the $100,000 Skipat Stakes, trainer Steve Asmussen laughed at the question of whether the 4-year-old filly knew she'd won.

"They know, believe me, they know," said the Hall of Famer. "She knows she won today. The filly's been beautifully consistent and running well, but without any success and I think that says a lot for her. They don't all keep doing that."

Owned by Team Hanley and Parkland Thoroughbreds, Joy's Rocket finished second four times–beaten a head and two necks in three of them–in those eight starts. She now has five wins in 15 starts.

Notes: In a sign of things to come in the Preakness Stakes-G1, the owner/trainer/jockey combination of Klaravich Stables, Chad Brown and Jose Ortiz won the $150,000 Gallorette-G3 with **Technical Analysis (Ire)**. Sent off at 3-5, the 4-year-old daughter of English-bred Kingman set the pace and won by 3¼ lengths. Twice a graded winner in Saratoga last summer, Technical Analysis collected her fifth win from nine starts . . . Juddmonte homebred **Set Piece (GB)** lived up to his 2-1 favoritism in the $250,000 Dinner Party-G2 on the turf, rallying from sixth early to defeat Tango Tango Tango by 1¼ lengths for trainer Brad Cox and jockey Florent Geroux . . . Florida-bred **Lightening Larry** upset the $200,000 Chick Lang-G3 for Lea Farms and trainer Jorge Delgado. The winner, a son of Uncaptured, won twice as a 2-year-old last year and became a stakes winner on New Year's Day at Gulfstream Park before a short freshening and a move from trainer Jeff Engler to Jorge Delgado's barn. Shipped north with Delgado's string at Monmouth Park, Lightening Larry breezed twice there in May before landing the Lang at 12-1. Chantal Sutherland rode the winner, who edged favorite Cogburn by three-quarters of a length . . . Hall of Fame trainer D. Wayne Lukas won the $100,000 Sir Barton with **Ethereal Road**, whose scratch in the Kentucky Derby-G1 two weeks earlier allowed longshot winner Rich Strike into the field. Sent off 8-5 favorite in a field of eight, Ethereal Road and Luis Saez rallied outside and kept rolling to defeat B Dawk by 4¾ lengths with Maryland-bred Mr Jefferson third . . . Turf sprinter **Carotari** sped through 5 furlongs in :56.52 to win the Jim McKay Turf Sprint for owner William Branch and trainer Brian Lynch. Saez rode the 6-year-old son of Artie Schiller, who won for the ninth time in 25 starts, five in stakes. ◆

A Horsewoman

In a Jan. 3, 1948, profile of the financier and philanthropist Bernard Baruch, he of the eponymously named Grade 2 handicap at Saratoga, writer John Hersey describes a visit to the barn of Max Hirsch by the aforementioned Baruch. Robert Kleberg, master of the King Ranch, is present, along with Hirsch, when Baruch emerges from his limousine. After describing the exchange of pleasantries among the three titans of the turf, Hersey writes:

> *A girl of about twenty, in blue jeans and a tweed jacket, with her hair tightly braided and pinned upon the back of her head, came out of the mess shack. Kleberg introduced her to Baruch as his daughter Helenita and Baruch stepped right over to her and said, in his deep southern tones, "Well. Miss, I see you like to ride."*
>
> *"I do, yes," she said.*
>
> *"Do you do any shooting?"*
>
> *"A little."*
>
> *"What kind of gun do you use?"*
>
> *"A four-ten."*
>
> *"A four-ten!" Baruch put his hands over his ears and made a face that suggested he had never before in all his seventy-seven years been the recipient of such astounding news.*

The Helenita of the profile was Helen K. Groves who died in May at age 94. Mrs. Groves, as I always called her, had been astounding people, especially men, for every one of those years.

In 1946, two years before that piece appeared in *The New Yorker*, she was a Foxcroft graduate and Vassar student when she led in Triple Crown winner Assault after his victory in the Belmont Stakes. Assault, with jockey Warren Mehrtens in the King Ranch colors of "brown, tan sleeves with the 'Running W' front and back" was named Horse of the Year and champion 3-year-old male en route to seasonal earnings of $424,195.

Two years after the article appeared, she was married to a Pennsylvania physician, J. Deaver Alexander, and living on 10,000 acres of Chester County grassland which was a subsidiary of her family's South Texas-based cattle empire and beginning to raise a family which would grow to six children. The "Ranch," of which her father

was the CEO, had purchased the land in 1946 as a place to fatten cattle bound for the eastern markets. The land was so lush that, under Helenita's supervision, cattle gained two pounds a day for the eight or 10 months they spent in Unionville.

Since her time at Foxcroft, Mrs. Groves had been an avid foxhunter and in Unionville she pursued that passion and instilled that love in her children. In 1968, divorced from Dr. Alexander, she left Pennsylvania and leased part of the property which is now Fair Hill. There she continued hunting and even made an offer, in the early 1970s, to buy the entire property. When that was rejected, she purchased a large property in Middlebrook, Va., and named it Silverbrook Ranch.

I first encountered Mrs. Groves when she was still living in Unionville. I was about 15 and a member of the Radnor Hunt Pony Club. The regional pony club rally was held that year at the King Ranch property. I was allergic to bee stings and I suffered one during the rally. I was taken to the main house where she gave me an ice pack and rushed me in to see her husband. Dr. Alexander went into an old-fashioned physician's bag and gave me a shot of something that fixed me right up. The house, now the home of Mrs. Groves' daughter DD and her husband Michael Matz, was, and still is, the coolest house in Chester County.

It was many years before I would reconnect with Mrs. Groves and she spent those years eventfully. When she moved to Virginia she put aside foxhunting and reconnected with her ranching roots. Her main interests were breeding Santa Gertrudis cattle and Quarter Horses for cutting. From her Virginia base she traveled the country with her horses competing in the non-pro division and watching her horses compete with professional riders.

Groves was a member of the National Cutting Horse Association Hall of Fame, and the Cowgirl Hall of Fame. With her in the saddle, her horses earned more than $450,000 and she owned the winners of more than $1.67 million. Cutting horses bred by her Silverbrook Ranches have earned $4.2 million and she was universally known as "The First Lady of Cutting."

At the 1980 Keeneland November Sale she, along with her daughter Helen Alexander and family friend David Aykroyd, purchased the 12-year-old mare Courtly Dee (1968, Never Bend—Tulle, by War Admiral) in foal to Alydar for $900,000. Courtly Dee was already the dam of speedy Grade 1-winning 2-year-old Ali Oop and the distance- and turf-loving half-million dollar earner Native Courier. Her 1978 filly would become stakes winner and Grade 1 producer Princess Oola, whose 1987 colt Azzaam would win the Group 1 Sydney Cup in Australia.

The Alydar filly Courtly Dee was carrying at the time of purchase was scheduled to be sold at the 1982 Fasig-Tipton July yearling sale. Fortunately for the partners, the filly came up lame with an abscess just before the sale and was scratched. They gave her the name Althea after the flowering shrub and national flower of South Korea. Althea became the champion 2-year-old filly of 1983; won the Arkansas Derby-G1 for trainer D. Wayne Lukas; earned $1.2 million; and was the first filly to start as Kentucky Derby favorite since Nellie Flag in 1935. Althea produced five foals for the partners – four were stakes winners, and her descendants include Grade 1 winner and major sire Arch and Grade 1-winning millionaire Acoma.

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Exceeding Expectations

High-priced Bernardini colt leads record-breaking May sale

By Sara Gordon. Photos courtesy of Fasig-Tipton

Since his days as a youngster at his birthplace in Chestertown, N.Y., to his time in early training at Sequel at Winding Oaks in Ocala, Fla., and during his public debut at the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic spring 2-year-old sale in Timonium, Md., the well-traveled Berning Remarks has been the picture of consistency.

The nearly black son of Bernardini (Hip 385) was always a stellar student, getting good grades for temperament, disposition, trainability and athleticism, and on Wednesday, May 18, he outpaced all expectations by breezing a furlong in 9⅘ seconds. But that was only the beginning, as the colt turned the sale's fastest eighth-mile in 10 years into a record-shattering $3.55 million pricetag May 24.

Consigned by Becky Thomas' Sequel Bloodstock for breeders Chester and Mary Broman, the colt joined Amr Zedan's Zedan Racing operation on a bid by agent Gary Young. Berning Remarks became the highest-priced Thoroughbred to sell at public auction in Maryland, the highest-priced juvenile at any sale this season and the highest-priced offspring of his late sire worldwide. For the Sequel team, which has a long history with the Bromans and their Chestertown Farm, it was the epitome of peak success.

"It's incredible. It's really special for all of us to be a part of. It's one of those things where the entire team follows the horse up, everyone's high-fiving and it's a team win, rather than just an owner and agent kind of deal," said Sequel's Carlos Manresa.

"As far as the sale goes, we knew that he would do extremely well, there was a lot of buzz about him. All of the right guys were on him, and we expected it to be a pretty big number. We didn't think it would be quite that big, but Mr. Broman is overjoyed about it, we're overjoyed about it and everyone back at the barn in Florida and even New York, at Chestertown, where the horse came from, they're just overwhelmed with joy."

The dark bay colt is a third-generation homebred from a line started by the multiple Grade 1-winning Spend a Buck mare Antespend, purchased by the Bromans for $900,000 from the estate of Jack Kent Cooke at Keeneland in April 1997. She won one race, a Belmont Park allowance, for the Bromans but produced Florida Derby-G1 winner and sire Friends Lake, along with the record-selling colt's second dam, Grade 2 winner Seeking the Ante.

Of the seven foals Seeking the Ante produced, six won, topped by multiple stakes winner and stakes producer Mineralogist (Mineshaft); multiple stakes-placed Risk a Chance (A.P. Indy), dam of this year's Rebel Stakes-G2 winner Un Ojo; and G Note, a Medaglia d'Oro mare who has produced five foals, including the 2-year-old Bernardini colt.

For Gregg Falk, manager of Chestertown, the colt's show-stopping breeze and historic sale are a testament to the mares the Bromans recruited and the success of a program developed over decades.

"That family, everything out of the Seeking the Ante family, they're all really, really good mothers. They're all maternally blessed it seems like, they're good caregivers to their foals and G Note is no exception, she's very good in that department. It passes on to the foals too," said Falk. "Chester and I went down that day to the sale and [the Bernardini colt] was just taking everything in stride, looking very comfortable and calm in his surroundings, and that's a lot for a young horse like that to take in. That's kind of how he always was as a baby and same with all of his other brothers before him, they were all pretty much even-keel, good tempered individuals."

The colt also set a record for Broman-breds at public auction, as he exceeded the price of Chestertown, a Tapit colt out of Grade 1 winner Artemis Agrotera, who sold for $2 million at the 2019 Ocala Breeders' Sales Company's March sale. Also consigned by Sequel, he has since earned $404,145 in 21 starts, highlighted by a victory in the 2020 Albany Stakes at Saratoga.

For Young and Zedan, the son of Bernardini rounded out a quartet of stand-

out 2-year-old colts purchased this season as part of Zedan's ultimate goal: to win the Kentucky Derby-G1. Young purchased the late Medina Spirit, on behalf of Zedan, for $35,000 at OBS July in 2020. Just months after Medina Spirit was stripped of his Kentucky Derby victory, it appeared that Zedan's Derby fever was stronger than ever, and the agent, owner and trainer Bob Baffert all saw the classic potential in the Midlantic sales topper.

"This track is always a little demanding. After the breeze, when they start up the backside, it separates the wheat from the chaff a little bit, and an average horse will be a little bit spent," said Young. "This horse, and other good horses here, kept firing as he went around the turn and into the backstretch. He was very high up on our list–I liked him at the barn, Bob Baffert loved him at the barn and this was going to be our horse for the sale."

The bidding started in $100,000 increments, increasing steadily until $900,000, where the action stalled and everyone in the sales pavilion seemed to collectively hold their breath. But after nearly 45 seconds, the rapid-fire bidding resumed to surpass $1 million, knocking off the $1.8 million record set by Gamine in 2018 and heading toward a new echelon. In the end, it came down to Young and West Point Thoroughbreds, in a standoff at $3.5 million until Young pulled the trigger at $3.55 million and West Point bowed out.

"We were thinking about $2.5 million would be our top. Mr. Zedan called me going in, [saying] that he was thinking that might be the ceiling and we just kept going back and forth. We knew who we were bidding against and I'm pretty sure they knew who they were bidding against," said Young. "I didn't think we were going to have to go to $3.55 million on him, we were getting toward the end of our rope and obviously they were too, but we prevailed in the bidding war with no buyer's remorse."

Agent Gary Young bought the sales-topper from consignor Becky Thomas of Sequel Bloodstock.

After the sale, the colt shipped to Los Alamitos Race Course in Cypress, Calif., where he'll begin training to prepare for a potential debut during Del Mar's summer meet. In the meantime, his dam was in Lexington, Ky., with her Improbable colt, after being bred back to Spendthrift Farm's Rock Your World.

"It was pretty neat to see that, the intensity of it, and Mr. Broman was kind of speechless for a few moments there, and I think for a day or two afterward, until it settled in," said Falk. "It's not so much the money but it's what the money says, I think that is the biggest thing. Every year [at Chestertown] it's a remodeling, building process. There's a certain group that needs to be moved on and there's a certain group that we add, whether they're homebreds or purchases, to try to keep our quality up. It's a constant work in progress. I think it's a real hats off to Mr. Broman for everything he's put together over the years and it's nice to see that all come together for him."

For Paget Bennett, Fasig-Tipton Mid-lantic's sales director, the result was above and beyond what she had hoped, especially following a record-breaking sale last spring.

"To be honest with you, when we didn't have a seven-figure horse [Monday], I thought, 'Please, come on.' We've had [at least] one [for seven years] and my goal has always been to have two seven-figure horses, but I'll take a $3.55 million horse and put it into slices. With the work, being by Bernardini and being a New York-bred, he had all the ingredients to go to seven figures. I just hope we get him on the cover [of the catalog] someday," she said. "Last year was such a wow year and when it comes to the next year, it's always 'Can we exceed what we did last year?' We certainly just blew it out of the park."

Maryland ties

When it came to the trio of pinhook prospects consigned by Paul Sharp on behalf of Baltimore native John Davison–a Good Magic colt, Classic Empire filly and Girvin filly–Davison was most skeptical about the latter (Hip 88).

Purchased by bloodstock agent Erin Wismer on behalf of Davison for $90,000 at Fasig-Tipton July last year, the filly was bred by Brereton Jones out of the Smart Strike mare Sweet Pistol. Though there aren't any racetrack standouts quite yet in the immediate family, Sweet Pistol is a half-sister to multiple graded stakes winner Thousand Words, who sold for $1 million as a yearling at Keeneland September in 2018.

"I was hemming and hawing," Davison recalled, "and Erin said, 'I don't know if she'll be the best pinhook prospect but she's a beautiful filly,' and I said 'Well, if

TOP-PRICED 2-YEAR-OLDS

Colts

$3,550,000 Dk.b./br.c. Bernardini—G Note, by Medaglia d'Oro (N.Y.); Chester and Mary Broman, Sequel Bloodstock, agent; Zedan Racing, Gary Young, agent.

$675,000 B.c. Bolt d'Oro—Shine Softly, by Aldebaran (N.Y.); Pike Racing, agent; Spendthrift Farm and Frank Fletcher Racing.

$600,000 B.c. Into Mischief—Stormy Regatta, by Midshipman (Ky.); de Meric Sales, agent; Maverick Racing, Siena Farm and Commonwealth.

$550,000 B.c. Always Dreaming—Saritta, by Indygo Shiner (Ky.); Top Line Sales, agent XVII; West Bloodstock for Robert and Lawana Low.

$525,000 Gr./ro.c. Gun Runner—Coppermine, by Unbridled's Song (Pa.); de Meric Sales, agent; Speedway Stable.

$500,000 Dk.b./br.c. Bolt d'Oro—Forever Discreet (Aus), by Bernardini (Ky.); Kings Equine, agent; Holly and David Wilson.

$400,000 Dk.b./br.c. Justify—Mezinka, by Bodemeister (Ky.); Hartley/De Renzo Thoroughbreds, agent IV; Harlo Stable.

$375,000 B.c. Sky Mesa—Careless Moment, by Successful Appeal (Iowa); Cary Frommer, agent; Woodslane Farm.

$375,000 Dk.b./br.c. Ransom the Moon—Tango Juliet, by Speightstown (Ky.); Robert Brewer; B-4 Farms.

$350,000 B.c. Bolt d'Oro—Halo Hollie, by Halo's Image (Pa.); Julie Davies, agent; Cash Is King.

$340,000 B.c. Tapwrit—Smart N Soft, by Smart Strike (Ky.); L G, agent; Spendthrift Farm and Frank Fletcher Racing.

$335,000 B.c. Bolt d'Oro—My Fair Lily, by Smoke Glacken (Ky.); Randy Miles, agent XII; Repole Stable, West Bloodstock, agent.

$300,000 B.c. West Coast—Midst, by Closing Argument (Ky.); Wavertree Stables. (Ciaran Dunne), agent IX; Dennis O'Neill.

Fillies

$725,000 B.f. Girvin—Sweet Pistol, by Smart Strike (Ky.); Paul Sharp, agent IV; Michael Lund Petersen, Donato Lanni, agent.

$500,000 Gr./ro.f. Malibu Moon—Lorelei True, by Unbridled's Song (Ky.); Wavertree Stables. (Ciaran Dunne), agent VIII; J. Kinchen and Black Type Thoroughbreds, Maddie Mattmiller agent.

$500,000 Ch.f. American Pharoah—Jordan's Henny, by Henny Hughes (Ky.); McKathan Bros. Sales, agent; Cherie DeVaux, agent.

$475,000 Ch.f. Nyquist—Westside Tapstress, by Lookin At Lucky (Ky.); Randy Miles, agent XV; Harmash Racing.

$450,000 B.f. Justify—Lemhill Basr, by Quality Road (Ky.); Tom McCrocklin, agent II; Robert Garrett/Scattered Acres, Chris Hartman, agent.

$450,000 B.f. Nyquist—How My Heart Works, by Not For Love (Md.); Cary Frommer, agent; Oracle Bloodstock, agent.

$400,000 B.f. Cloud Computing—Elbe (GB), by Dansili (GB) (Fla.); Top Line Sales, agent III; Cherie DeVaux, agent.

$350,000 B.f. Friesan Fire—Kiss in the Forest, by Forest Wildcat (Md.); Tom McCrocklin, agent XII; Exline-Border Racing, Marette Farrell, agent.

$350,000 B.f. Upstart—Etsu, by Smart Strike (Ky.); Mason Springs, agent; First Row Partners, BSW/Crow agent.

$350,000 B.f. Uncle Mo—Town Tour, by Speightstown (Ky.); Pike Racing, agent; MKW Investments, Alistair Roden, agent.

$330,000 Gr./ro.f. Frosted—Auspicious, by Indian Charlie (N.Y.); Scanlon Training and Sales, agent VIII; West Point Thoroughbreds, L.E.B., agent.

$300,000 Dk.b./br.f. Sharp Azteca—Munjazaat, by Daaher (Ky.); Top Line Sales, agent V; Ten Strike Racing.

she doesn't work out as a pinhook, we can race the horse.'"

So it was the best kind of shock to both Davison and Wismer when the filly flourished at Timonium, breezing a furlong in :10⅕ before selling to Donato Lanni, agent for Marylander Michael Lund Petersen on a final bid of $725,000—the second-highest price of the sale and the highest-selling filly.

"I was just as surprised as anybody to see her work 10 and one and then to garner [all of] the interest, I mean she looked great in the breeze," said Davison. "She was very composed, had a long stride, she looked like a two-turn horse and she definitely improved a lot at the sale, from the first day I saw her through the 10 days [she was there]. She filled out, she didn't have any hiccups at all, her vet work was clean and she had the right people on her."

Davison's long family history in Maryland racing, combined with meeting Wismer at Fasig-Tipton a few years ago, led to their partnership. The pair's first investment was a Twirling Candy filly purchased for $40,000 at the 2020 Keeneland September sale and sold for $200,000 at Timonium last spring.

Along with the beyond-expectations success of the Girvin filly, Davison's Good Magic–Glory colt (a $90,000 yearling), sold for $185,000 and his Classic Empire–Okbyecya filly (a $50,000 yearling) sold for $100,000.

Marylander John Davison pinhooked this Girvin filly out of Fasig-Tipton's July yearling sale, bringing $725,000 from agent Donato Lanni for another Marylander Michael Lund Petersen.

"The more you have, the more chances that something is going to go wrong with one of them. As Erin said, it's sort of a miracle that the three of them all vetted and got through the process," said Davison. "They really weren't breezing until April. We sent them late this year, Paul didn't get them until [early December] I'm going to say, and he gave them a few weeks off. The filly, the one that sold for a lot, came to hand literally in the last two to three weeks. The lightbulb came on and that's what I'm saying, there's so much luck.

"Erin has been in racing 20 years, has a great eye for a horse and she received a lot of accolades from peers post-sale

Ten-year figures for 2-year-old sale

	Gross	Average	Sold	Buy-back %	Sales topper
2022	$37,297,700	$95,391	391	18.9	$3,550,000* dk.b./br.c. by Bernardini—G Note, by Medaglia d'Oro; consigned by Chester and Mary Broman, Sequel Bloodstock, agent; purchased by Zedan Racing, Gary Young, agent
2021	$33,692,000	$94,375	357	16.2	$1,500,000 Vinco, dk.b./br.c. by Quality Road—Stormy Welcome, by Storm Cat; consigned by Eddie Woods, agent X; purchased by West Point Thoroughbreds/L.E.B., agent
2020	$23,572,500	$77,797	303	19.2	$1,100,000 Shaaz, dk.b./br.c. by Uncle Mo—Miss Ocean City, by Mineshaft; consigned by Pike Racing, agent; purchased by Michael Lund Petersen, Donato Lanni, agent
2019	$29,374,000	$90,104	326	23.3	$1,800,000 Gamine, b.f. by Into Mischief—Peggy Jane, by Kafwain; consigned by Bobby Dodd, agent; purchased by Michael Lund Petersen, Donato Lanni, agent
2018	$24,868,500	$74,680	333	22.6	$1,200,000 Lebron J, b.c. by Medaglia d'Oro—Tapicat, by Tapit; consigned by Hartley/de Renzo Thoroughbreds, agent; purchased by Dennis O'Neill
2017	$25,237,000	$76,476	330	19.9	$1,500,000 Curlin's Honor, ch.c. by Curlin—Franscat, by Stormin Fever; consigned by Hartley/de Renzo Thoroughbreds, agent; purchased by Breeze Easy and John C. Oxley
2016	$23,136,400	$68,654	337	25.9	$1,000,000 Modest Maven, dk.b./br.f. by Uncle Mo—Dream Street, by Tale of the Cat; consigned by Pike Racing, agent; purchased by Chester Broman, Linda Rice, agent
2015	$22,659,000	$88,859	255	21.5	$1,250,000 Garnet, b.f. by Smart Strike—Crystal Current, by A.P. Indy; consigned by Eddie Woods, agent XXIX; purchased by Ben McElroy, agent
2014	$19,601,000	$59,578	329	23.5	$520,000 Old Mountain Lane, b.c. War Front—Judy's Magic, by Wavering Monarch; consigned by Eisaman Equine, agent; purchased by Steven W. Young, agent
2013	$16,675,000	$66,968	249	14.7	$450,000 Jazz Player, ch.c. Malibu Moon—Partyship, by Premiership; consigned by Eddie Woods, agent XXI; purchased by Gary Contessa for Wounded Warrior
2012	$16,721,000	$53,593	312	24.6	$575,000 Magic Daddy, ch.c. Scat Daddy—Magical Mist, by Congaree; consigned by Kings Equine, agent VII; purchased by Mercedes Stables

** The highest-priced horse sold at public auction in Maryland.*

THE NUMBERS

Two-Year Figures

	2022	2021
Offered	482	426
Sold	391	357
Not sold	18.9%	16.2%
Gross	$37,297,700	$33,692,000
Average	$95,391 (+1.1%)	$94,375
Median	$47,000	$50,000

Leading Sires

Gross Sales

Bernardini (3)	$3,622,000
Bolt d'Oro (8)	2,477,000
Good Magic (13)	1,695,000
Into Mischief (5)	1,270,000
Nyquist (4)	1,225,000
Girvin (3)	897,000
Uncle Mo (6)	887,000
Justify (2)	850,000
Violence (8)	821,000
Malibu Moon (4)	750,000

Average Sales (3 or more sold)

Bernardini (3)	$1,207,333
Bolt d'Oro (8)	309,625
Nyquist (4)	306,250
Girvin (3)	299,000
Into Mischief (5)	254,000
City of Light (3)	248,333
American Pharoah (3)	246,667
Malibu Moon (4)	187,500
Frosted (4)	152,500
Uncle Mo (6)	147,833

Leading Consignors

Gross Sales

Sequel Bloodstock (8)	$4,290,000
De Meric Sales (22)	2,811,000
Grassroots Training and Sales (31)	1,987,000
Top Line Sales (13)	1,897,000
Paul Sharp (14)	1,798,000
Kings Equine (25)	1,783,000
Pike Racing (6)	1,625,000
Randy Miles (16)	1,564,000
Cary Frommer (10)	1,440,000
Julie Davies (19)	1,348,000

Average (3 or more sold)

Sequel Bloodstock (8)	$536,250
Pike Racing (6)	270,833
Hartley/De Renzo Thoroughbreds (5)	175,200
Robert Brewer (8)	156,625
Wavertree Stables (8)	152,750
Top Line Sales (13)	145,923
Cary Frommer (10)	144,000
Woodford Thoroughbreds (6)	130,333
Paul Sharp (14)	128,429
De Meric Sales (22)	127,773

Leading Buyers

Zedan Racing (Gary Young, agt.) (1)	$3,550,000
Harmash Racing (5)	1,025,000
Spendthrift Farm & Frank Fletcher Racing (2)	1,015,000
Chad Schumer, agt. (9)	980,000
Cherie DeVaux, agt. (2)	900,000
Michael Lund Petersen (Donato Lanni, agt.) (1)	725,000
Oracle Bloodstock, agt. (3)	720,000
Repole Stable (West Bloodstock, agt.) (5)	667,000
J. Kinchen & Black Type Thoroughbreds (Maddie Mattmiller, agt.) (2)	665,000
Maverick Racing/Siena Farm & Commonwealth (1)	600,000

on selecting the Girvin filly as a yearling. Seeing her success and the excitement she displayed is what brought the most joy to me through this experience. I also have to give Paul Sharp a lot of credit for being patient with the horses and knowing when he could turn the pressure up a notch."

Mid-Atlantic successes

After Early Voting won the Preakness Stakes-G1 the Saturday before the sale to become his sire Gun Runner's fifth Grade 1 winner, it was no surprise that the two sons of Gun Runner in the De Meric Sales consignment drew more attention. Ultimately, one prevailed in the sales ring, as a Pennsylvania-bred gray colt (Hip 287) sold for $525,000 to top all Mid-Atlantic-bred offerings.

Bred by Blackstone Farm out of the Unbridled's Song mare Coppermine, the colt went through the ring at Keeneland September last year, but failed to meet his reserve after being bid up to $245,000. That's when de Meric stepped in.

"He was always a very straightforward horse," said Tristan de Meric. "When we bought him we thought he would fit this sale, being a Pennsylvania-bred, so we kind of pointed him here all season and he came up here in great shape. He worked well like we expected him to and he was by the right horse too. Having a Gun Runner anytime this year has been great, but [Early Voting] winning the Preakness was outstanding on top of it."

The half-brother to stakes-placed Puca Penny breezed in :10⅕, meeting expectations when it came to handling Timonium's 5-furlong track.

"We loved the way he moved, we loved the balance. He developed the way we expected him to, always did the right thing for us, and he was a sound, healthy horse," said de Meric. "You never expect to sell one that well but he was definitely checking the boxes and the right people were landing here, so we thought he had potential. We were conservative in the reserve and let the market say what he was worth and we were very happy with the end result."

Peter and Ann Flour and K.C. Weiner's Speedway Stable signed the ticket.

The other Gun Runner in the De Meric consignment, a dark bay colt out of Sage Mist, was the second horse in the ring on day one and sold for $150,000 to Country Life Farm. He is a half-brother to stakes winners Master Plan and Highway Boss.

Cary Frommer's consignment hosted the second highest-selling Mid-Atlantic-bred, a Maryland-bred Nyquist filly out of the Not For Love mare How My Heart Works (Hip 414) sold for $450,000 to Oracle Bloodstock.

Bred by Bowman and Higgins Stable, the filly has history with Frommer.

"I had had her mother, the Not For Love mare, and I loved her. Meanwhile, the mare had foaled a baby that turned out to be a nice baby and this was her second foal. She was very gawky looking, but I just really liked the family, so I bought her," said Frommer, who purchased the filly for $200,000 at last year's Fasig-Tipton Midlantic fall yearling sale.

From ugly duckling to mature, balanced, fit and composed, the filly seemed to leave an impression on potential buyers. A half-sister to multiple stakes winner Monday Morning Qb, from the family of 2022 Grade 1 Arkansas Derby winner Cyberknife, the filly stepped up to the plate as she overcame a slight hiccup in her training prior to the sale and breezed an eighth in :10⅖.

"I got a little sick in Florida and I didn't get home [in time] to do the prep breezing that I normally do, so she came here behind the eight ball a little bit, as all my horses did, but she just rose to the occasion," said Frommer. "She did what we asked of her. I thought it was a lovely breeze. She worked fast for the day and she galloped out real good and strong. I felt very comfortable that she would bring in the $300,000s, but $450,000 was a really pleasant surprise. But then again, I'm not surprised that people saw that quality in her, because she has it and she's going to be a big name I think."

A fellow Maryland-bred ranked third in terms of Mid-Atlantic-breds sold, as a Friesan Fire filly consigned by Tom McCrocklin sold for $350,000 to Marette Farrell, agent for Exline-Border Racing. McCrocklin purchased her for $50,000 at last year's Fasig-Tipton Kentucky October sale.

"She was a really nice filly from day one," said McCrocklin. "When you buy these yearlings and speculate, when you want to turn them around and sell them as 2-year-olds, there's a lot of different angles you can come from–pedigree, colt/filly, size–but to me, just physically she was a really pretty horse all along; very well-balanced, has a beautiful head, neck, eyes, ears, and just really had everything physically you wanted in a horse."

Knowing she was a registered Maryland-bred, McCrocklin pointed her to Timonium in hopes of attracting a Maryland-based client, but the crowd appeared to have a different dynamic.

A Blackstone Farm-bred Gun Runner colt led the Mid-Atlantic-breds at $525,000 from De Meric Sales.

Cary Frommer sold the second-highest priced Mid-Atlantic-bred, a Nyquist filly bred by Bowman & Higgins Stable.

"This is probably the first year that I've gone to the sale in Timonium where I thought the attendance from the Maryland horsemen was light," McCrocklin said. "We did not see nearly as many Maryland horse people that we do and I kind of attribute it to [that] I thought they had a tough year. When you combine that with the current state of the economy overall, you know the stock market has been taking a beating, inflation is through the roof, and typically, you know the Maryland horse people they like to buy in what I call the middle market, I think they were probably heavily impacted by all those factors

"Ironically, she was bought by somebody from Southern California and right after the sale, she shipped to Santa Anita."

The Maryland-sired filly was one of 20 horses, and one of three-Mid-Atlantic-breds, to breeze a furlong in :10 or faster. McCrocklin wasn't surprised.

"The week before we had what we call a prep breeze and that breeze was unbelievable," he said. "A horse cannot work any better than she breezed, and then we had a couple of factors that affected her. We'd gotten a lot of rain the night before, so the breeze show was actually delayed on that last day because the track was still pretty wet, and they spent some extra time working on it, but it was still pretty wet in the beginning. She was the third horse to breeze that morning and we were in the paddock walking around and when that first horse went by her, it was kind of loud because they're slapping that wet, fast racetrack and she got very startled. It would sound completely arrogant to say that that

PINHOOKERS' SCORECARD

Horses who sold for $200,000 or more, and exceeded their previous auction selling price by at least $100,000 or 100 percent:

$725,000 b.f. Girvin—Sweet Pistol, by Smart Strike. *ftk july 21 $90,000*
$675,000 b.c. Bolt d'Oro—Shine Softly, by Aldebaran. *kee sept 21 $90,000*
$600,000 b.c. Into Mischief—Stormy Regatta, by Midshipman. *kee sept 21 $250,000*
$550,000 b.c. Always Dreaming—Saritta, by Indygo Shiner. *kee sept 21 $40,000*
$500,000 dk.b./br.c. Bolt d'Oro—Forever Discreet (Aus), by Bernardini. *kee sept 21 $40,000*
$500,000 gr./ro.f. Malibu Moon—Lorelei True, by Unbridled's Song. *kee sept 21 $110,000*
$450,000 b.f. Nyquist—How My Heart Works, by Not For Love. *ftm oct 21 $200,000*
$450,000 b.f. Justify—Lemhill Basr, by Quality Road. *kee sept 21 $140,000*
$400,000 dk.b./br.c. Justify—Mezinka, by Bodemeister. *ftf march 22 $275,000*
$400,000 b.f. Cloud Computing—Elbe (GB), by Dansili (GB). *kee sept 21 $135,000*
$375,000 b.c. Sky Mesa—Careless Moment, by Successful Appeal. *ftk july 21 $100,000*
$375,000 dk.b./br.c. Ransom the Moon—Tango Juliet, by Speightstown. *ftk oct 21 $55,000*
$350,000 b.f. Uncle Mo—Town Tour, by Speightstown. *ftk oct 21 $125,000*
$350,000 b.c. Bolt d'Oro—Halo Hollie, by Halo's Image. *ftk oct 21 $200,000*
$350,000 b.f. Friesan Fire—Kiss in the Forest, by Forest Wildcat. *ftk oct 21 $50,000*
$350,000 b.f. Upstart—Etsu, by Smart Strike. *kee sept 21 $47,000*
$340,000 b.c. Tapwrit—Smart N Soft, by Smart Strike. *ftk july 21 $150,000*
$330,000 gr./ro.f. Frosted—Auspicious, by Indian Charlie. *ftn aug 21 $130,000*
$300,000 dk.b./br.f. Sharp Azteca—Munjazaat, by Daaher. *ftk july 21 $50,000*
$300,000 b.c. West Coast—Midst, by Closing Argument. *kee sept 21 $150,000*
$275,000 b.f. City of Light—To My Valentine (Fr), by Dyhim Diamond (Ire). *ftn aug 21 $105,000*
$270,000 b.c. Good Magic—Forestry's Magic, by Forestry. *kee sept 21 $155,000*
$260,000 dk.b./br.c. Nyquist—Missouria, by Bellamy Road. *ftk oct 21 $125,000*
$250,000 b.c. Bolt d'Oro—Classy Citizen, by Proud Citizen. *ftk oct 21 $35,000*
$250,000 dk.b./br.f. Collected—Aurore, by Arch. *ftk oct 21 $47,000*
$250,000 dk.b./br.f. Brody's Cause—Pinch Me, by Arch. *ftk oct 21 $120,000*
$215,000 ch.c. Golden Lad—Miss Manatee, by Smarty Jones. *ftm oct 21 $32,000*
$205,000 dk.b./br.f. Klimt—Queen Mercury, by Langfuhr. *ftk oct 21 $20,000*
$200,000 gr./ro.c. Unified—My Gray Lady, by Giant's Causeway. *ftk oct 21 $10,000*
$200,000 ch.f. Good Samaritan—Procellous, by Smarty Jones. *kee nov 20 $32,500*

was nowhere close to her best breeze, especially when she goes :10 flat and sells for $350,000, but it is the truth."

Bred by Barak Farm and Sharon Dodgen, the filly is the first foal sold out of the stakes-placed Forest Wildcat mare Kiss in the Forest. Barak purchased the mare, in foal to Flashback, for $13,000 at Keeneland November in 2018.

For McCrocklin, who sold 15 of 20 offered for $1,143,000, the sale stands out.

"A lot of good horses have come out of this sale, so now you're building a reputation that you can come to Timonium, you can come to Maryland, you can come in May and you can buy yourself a really nice racehorse," he said. "Also, a lot of people will tell you that you get to see them train and breeze on dirt, so you don't have that question mark in the back of your head of, 'Will my horse like a dirt surface?' To me, Fasig-Tipton is well above the competition in how they treat their customers. I mean they're just really good, knowledgeable people, very accommodating, very professional and they do a really good job. I could not give them more praise, they just deserve a lot of credit."

Big numbers reap big rewards

Along with marking the eighth consecutive year with a seven-figure sale-topper, records were also established for gross, average and median. Over two days, 391 horses sold for $37,297,700, up 10.7 percent from last year's record $33,692,000. The average was $95,391, a slight increase over last year's $94,375; the median was $47,000, the second-highest in sale history and just under the $50,000 of last year; and the RNA rate was 18.9 percent, under 20 percent for the third consecutive year.

"Records fell here and there, and we sold the highest-priced 2-year-old of the year, out of any 2-year-olds in training sales, so that says a lot. We just had a lot of buyers from all over the world that came to the sale, and we have our supporters regionally and nationally that come and buy racehorses here, so we're tickled to death," said Bennett. "I texted a few people and said, 'Wow, anything can happen at Timonium and it just did.' It just goes to show that people can feel confident about bringing that type of horse to the marketplace here in Maryland."

Despite the sale's popularity, physical growth in terms of catalog size is limited based on space at the fairgrounds. This year, Fasig-Tipton had to be a bit more selective in the horses cataloged.

"I hate doing it, but you're just trying to put the best catalog together that you can," Bennett said. "It's not saying [the horses not selected] aren't runners and this and that, but it's just based on sales history, sire average and things like that. [For example], we had a lot of six-figure yearling purchases in the May sale."

Though there aren't many options when it comes to expansion, there's a chance Fasig-Tipton could consider expanding the sales calendar to accommodate consignors and buyers.

"I don't know whether there's room on the calendar for another sale, but that's something to consider," Bennett said. "In the past we used to always do a May sale and a June sale, sometimes it was a July sale, but that was when there wasn't a July yearling sale that's also a horses-of-racing-age sale. We have to look hard at the calendar and see if there is a need for trying to fit in another sale."

Until then, Bennett hopes to continue the trend and hopes it increases the strength of the October and December sales at Timonium.

"With what's happened in the May sale, with that horse selling so well, it just goes to show that you can bring a good horse to Timonium," she said. "Just come be the big fish and you'll be rewarded. We hope that this kind of helps bring us momentum for our yearling sale and I'm hoping we can get some more New York-bred weanlings to Maryland winter. I think Timonium's working pretty well." ◆

The Timonium paddock continues to grow more scenic as the trees planted several years ago mature.

In Memoriam

Douglas Lees

BILLY MARTIN

Former steeplechase jockey William "Billy" Martin, who rode regularly for Hall of Fame trainer Mikey Smithwick among others in the 1970s and 1980s, died in May. He was 72.

Martin was born in Maryland, but more recently spent many years in Camden, S.C., working for Hall of Fame trainer Frank Whiteley Jr. and at the Springdale Race Course training center.

Martin won his first race (aboard Wine Scandal on the flat at Fair Hill) for Smithwick in 1977 and was a regular aboard several stable stars for years. In 1978, Martin won 10 races to place third in the National Steeplechase Association standings behind Tom Skiffington and Jerry Fishback. Martin's 10 included three with 1976 champion Straight and True, who gave the jockey his first jump win (via disqualification) at Radnor. Martin's breakout season also included a front-running win in the New York Turf Writers Cup aboard Happy Intellectual at Saratoga.

Martin never cracked the top five in the standings again, but rode for regularly for the next seven seasons—partnering with Uncle Edwin, Fabulous Time, Steve Canyon, Romeo Lima and others for wins—and even teaming up with future Hall of Famer Flatterer for a ride in 1983. They finished fourth in the Turf Writers.

Born in 1949, Martin was predeceased by his parents Lillie and William Martin. Survivors include a brother Samuel Martin, a niece, a nephew and friends in Maryland and South Carolina (led by his Wednesday night poker pals of 35 years). His family singled out friend Meg Douglas for her energy, care and companionship.

ANNA SASSO

Regional breeder, owner and horsewoman Anna Wetherill Bockius Sasso died at her home in Oakland, Calif., in April. She was 92.

Born in Philadelphia to Margaret and Robert Bockius, Sasso developed a passion for horses which was nurtured early in her life. Her father was a career naval officer, and she grew up in Baltimore, Seattle, California and Tennessee before the family settled in Upperco, Md.

Sasso was an early female exercise rider at racetracks and area farms and later became an owner, trainer and breeder.

She met Leonard Sasso through horses and they were married in 1960. Together they had six children: Michael Wetherill, Josephine Augusta, Anthony Bockius, Paul Nicholas, Alfred Brenneman and Sally Ginevra. Anna Sasso was a stepmother and friend to Leonard Sasso Jr. and Mary Lynn Sasso and took great delight in seven grandchildren.

Neena Ewing Collection / Maryland Horse Library

The Sassos' Penowa Farms (based in Maryland and Pennsylvania) bred, owned and raced multiple graded stakes winners including Globemaster, Sunrise County, Staretta, Lovely Gypsy and Mademoiselle Forli. In addition, Sasso was proud of Dillon, the Hall of Fame hunter ridden by her son Michael to multiple national championships. Trained by Tommy Kelly, Globemaster won or placed in 21 of 27 starts (including seconds in the Preakness and Belmont Stakes) and earned $355,423.

Aside from horses, Anna devoted herself to numerous charitable works including Ryerss Farm for Aged Equines which her grandparents founded, as well as the hospitals of Palm Beach County, Florida; Wilmington, Delaware; Chester County, Pennsylvania; and various churches including St. Paul's in Florida and California and St. Ann's in Phoenixville, Pa.

Broker's Tip *continued from page 31*

In 1987, against the advice of her family and advisors, Groves bought the 8-year-old In Reality mare Mochila. Through Mochila's daughter, Grade 1 Ballerina Stakes winner Serape, and her daughter Trensa, descend the Grade/Group 1 winners Free Drop Billy and champion Hawkbill, as well as Emmanuel, third this year in the Grade 1 Blue Grass Stakes in his fourth start.

Dixie and I became reacquainted with Mrs. Groves through her daughter DD. She was one of our partners on Ringside, a horse we raced and stood at stud at Charlton. We became friends and were often invited to dinner when Mrs. Groves visited.

Often, when you arrive at a dinner party or other small social gathering, you will notice that most of the women are talking amongst themselves but there is a knot of men clustered around one woman who is holding forth and has the rapt attention of every man in the group. She isn't necessarily the most beautiful woman in the room and her ability to attract men doesn't necessarily incite jealousy in other women.

I think the expression is, "Men want to know her, and women want to be her." This phrase describes the Helen Groves that we knew. A great storyteller with incredible stories to tell; a widely read authority on horses, cattle, ranching and many technical subjects which her philanthropy supported; a woman who had seen the world and done everything she had ever dreamed of doing as a cowgirl on a ranch in South Texas. ◆

Different Tune

Snap Decision gets back to winning with second consecutive Iroquois score

BY JOE CLANCY. PHOTOGRAPHS BY TOD MARKS

Nobody knows what a racehorse really thinks, but Snap Decision probably wasn't happy after his record-tying, nine-race, two-year winning streak came to an end with two defeats at the hooves of The Mean Queen (Ire) last year. A long winter without a race didn't help, and neither did a season-opening loss to Iranistan in April.

Then came a trip to Music City.

Like Hank Williams Jr., the Nashville scene apparently suits Snap Decision. Only he's way less angry about it.

The 8-year-old bay gelding met six others in the $150,000 Calvin Houghland Iroquois Steeplechase-G1, and turned back time–shadowing English raider Pistol Whipped (Ire) throughout, taking over on the backstretch and pouring it on to win by 7¼ lengths. Pistol Whipped finished second with Amschel (GB) third. The winner needed 5:40.20 to cover 3 miles, and became the historic race's 15th back-to-back winner. Owned by Bruton Street-US, Snap Decision won for the 10th time in 15 starts over hurdles. Second in the other five, the son of Hard Spun and the Unbridled mare Salute has earned $525,900 since joining trainer Jack Fisher's barn after being purchased from the Phipps Stable in 2018.

The performance looked vintage, like two Saratoga dominations in 2020 or last year's Temple Gwathmey-G2. Felt that way too.

"It seemed more Snap like," said jockey Graham Watters, aboard for the Kentucky-bred's last six starts. "That was him at his best. I was blown away by him."

On his toes at the start, Snap Decision broke just behind Pistol Whipped (who made the trek from England for trainer Nicky Henderson) early and they jumped the first as a team. A four-time winner, Pistol Whipped took over coming to the third fence with Snap Decision a length back and followed by Historic Heart (Ire), Moscato (GB), Iranistan, Amschel and Brianbakescookies. Iranistan nearly fell at the fourth and lost all chance.

"We grabbed the bull by the horns a little bit earlier this time," Watters said of

Snap Decision shows the way over the last fence in the Iroquois Steeplechase, his 10th win in 15 starts over jumps.

sitting closer to the front. "I knew Pistol Whipped was going to make it and I thought he was the horse to beat. I didn't see any point in sitting in behind him and giving him a free ride. I knew Snap would stay the 3 miles and he'd have a turn of foot at the end of it and maybe they weren't sure about Pistol Whipped."

Watters let Snap Decision test the leader at the ninth and 10th, and struck for real entering the backstretch the final time. Facing three fences in a line, the leaders increased the tempo and made the others play defense. Pistol Whipped led by a half-length at the 12th, but had company. They jumped the 13th on even terms, and 6 lengths clear of the others. Snap Decision flew the 14th to take command, and landed with momentum.

"We straightened up to those three hurdles and I just said, 'Right, come on Snap, like, let's get on with it,'" Watters said. "I threw the reins at him and he winged all three hurdles. I know him, but it blew me away."

They cleared Pistol Whipped, moved over to the rail and jumped the 15th alone as the other jockeys worked hard to keep pace. You could almost feel Snap Decision take a breath while well clear coming off the turn. Stablemate Moscato (GB) got to second rounding the bend, but faded late and the winner saw out the final stages.

With The Mean Queen on the shelf for the spring with a minor injury, Snap Decision took the lead in the early race for the championship though there was plenty of racing to be done. The road goes through Saratoga for the A.P. Smithwick (2 1/16 miles) and Jonathan Sheppard (2 3/8), followed by the Lonesome Glory (2 1/2) at Belmont Park in September and then the Grand National (2 5/8) in October. At $250,000, the latter could draw an international field as well.

"He knew he won, he's a smart horse," said Watters. "When he was beaten at Far Hills last year, you could tell. To be off all winter, all through the spring and then to be beaten again . . . he has to know. He deserved to win, did it the right way, never put a foot wrong. He was so commanding of it. That's the part I liked the most."

Dalton gets 100

Veteran jockey Bernie Dalton secured the 100th jump win of his career when Down Royal turned aside Irish raider Burn The Evidence (GB) in the Margaret Currey Henley Stakes at Nashville May 14.

Kate and Bernie Dalton celebrate after Down Royal's victory (the jockey's 100th) at Nashville.

Dalton rode his first American jump race in 2004 and got to the century mark the hard way with his best season being 13 wins in 2015.

The Irishman, an exercise rider for trainer Kiaran McLaughlin and others on the New York circuit for several years, endured a winless (in 45 mounts) season in 2019 but has also won Grade 1 hurdle stakes on Diplomat, Italian Wedding, Red Letter Day and 2012 Eclipse Award winner Pierrot Lunaire. Now, Dalton primarily rides horses prepped by his wife Kate as part of their breaking/training business in Camden, S.C.

Owned by Joe Fowler Jr., Down Royal was bred in New York by the Daltons, who campaigned her dam Miss Crown. After three winless seasons 2018-20, Down Royal has won four of her last five starts (with a second)—all since being taken off Lasix.

"It's been crazy. She started out looking pretty good as a 2-year-old and then plateaued. Last year, we decided to take her off Lasix, ever since, she's been first or second. So proud of her. She's up to $187,000. She just paid for the whole year," Kate Dalton said. "You can't write this. I was so nervous, you knew it going in and when you know it's a possibility, you want it that much more, but you don't really believe that it's actually going to happen."

It happened with another resolute effort, turning away Burn The Evidence by 2¾ lengths.

"I have never screamed like that in my entire life," Kate Dalton said. "It was like winning a Breeders' Cup race, so poetic."

Pipeline Full of Maidens

After abbreviated racing calendars in 2020 and 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic, programs returned to (almost) normal in 2022 and nowhere was that more evident than a deep bench of maiden hurdle horses.

The ball started rolling at Aiken, S.C., in March as Bee Major won his debut for Leslie Young and owners Thomas Rice and Van Cushny. The son of English Channel, claimed for $7,500 at the Meadowlands in October, ousted subsequent winners Cause for Pardon and Freddy Flintshire.

Going Country (Ire) graduated in his 2022 debut at Tryon, N.C., in mid-April for trainer Keri Brion and an ownership group of Blue Streak Racing, Metahorse Racing, CFC Stables and The International Venture. The 6-year-old came right back to win again against allowance company a week later at Middleburg and was poten-

Grey Giant (right, Teddy Davies) battles for the lead on the way to winning the final maiden hurdle of the spring for trainer Joe Davies and owners Gerry Brewster and Richard Blue Jr.

tially on his way to a third win when taken off course by a rival in the David Semmes Memorial-G2 at Great Meadow May 7. The son of Yeats (Ire) capped a busy spring with a third in a novice stakes at Nashville May 14.

The Middleburg maiden overflowed with a full field of 10, all but four making their debuts. Take Profit, a turf winner at Delaware Park in 2020, prevailed over Awakened with Kelmscott (Ire) third. Willie Dowling trained the winner, a son of Air Force Blue and a purchase from trainer Jerry O'Dwyer.

"We tried claiming a couple and it didn't work out," said Dowling, who trains the 4-year-old for the Kiplin Hall partnershp of Jay Griswold, Guy Dove and Doug Croker. "Will Phipps told us about the horse and I've known Jerry for a while now. He said for me to come down and gallop him. The first time I sat on him, I said, 'This is a nice horse.' He took to jumping right away. He's part-owned by two Virginia guys so the money was down at Virginia. My horses are never tuned up to win first time out. He'll go to the allowance race at Saratoga. He likes the distance. He's filling out and looks like a nice horse."

Second with Awakened at Middleburg, trainer Jack Fisher unveiled Welshman the following week at Foxfield. The son of Flintshire (GB) didn't disappoint local owner Sonny Via, winning by 8¾ lengths in his hurdle debut. Purchased by Via and Fisher last summer, the 4-year-old won on the turf at Laurel Park in October.

North Carolina's April 30 Queen's Cup meet carded two maiden special weight hurdle races, both won by Brion 4-year-olds as Spring Heeled Jim (Ire) captured his debut for CFC Stables and Freddy Flintshire graduated in his third try for Upland Flats Racing. Also at the Queen's Cup, Pennsylvania flat owner Matt Groff picked up a win with Bold Quest in the maiden claimer. The Super Saver gelding won twice for trainer Tim Kreiser at Penn National last year.

Brion showcased two more maiden-breaking 4-year-olds at the Virginia Gold Cup as Baltimore Kid (Ire) and Ljay (Ire) thrived in the soft going. The former won a maiden hurdle in his debut for Buttonwood Farm while the latter picked up a 4-year-old hurdle stakes in his second start for Belle Meade Jockey Club and The International Venture.

Fisher and Bruton Street-US found a future star when they purchased Snap Decision from the Phipps Stable and trainer Shug McGaughey in 2018 and–no pressure–were hoping for something anywhere near similar with newcomer Proven Innocent. Fourth behind Freddy Flintshire at the Queen's Cup, the son of Blame rallied late to catch Fisher-trained stablemate Bickley in the stretch at Nashville. Out of the A.P. Indy mare Meghan's Joy, the 4-year-old is a half-brother to graded flat winners Hunting, Ironicus, On Leave, Norumbega and Quiet Harbor.

The final maiden hurdle of the spring went to another 4-year-old, this one a New York-bred as Gerry Brewster and Richard Blue Jr. teamed up as the owners of Grey Giant at Radnor. Trained by Joe Davies and ridden by his son Teddy, the Giant Surprise gelding ousted nine others in his hurdle debut.

Summer Schools

The NSA calendar was empty in June, but was poised to take flight in July with stops at Colonial Downs, Saratoga Race Course and Belmont Park through the summer. The Colonial plan included eight days of hurdle racing July 11, 18, 25, Aug 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 with a finale of sorts on Labor Day Sept. 5 with a flat race restricted to horses who started over jumps–but didn't win–at the meet.

The Colonial lineup focused on maiden races with six planned along with handicap hurdles and the $100,000 Randolph D. Rouse Stakes for fillies and mares Aug. 22.

Saratoga looked familiar with seven races on Wednesdays July 20 and 27 plus Aug. 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31. The $150,000 A.P. Smithwick July 20 and Jonathan Sheppard Aug. 17 offered Grade 1 opportunities for stakes horses with a third New York Grade 1 slated for Belmont with the Lonesome Glory Sept. 15.

Combined, the racetracks offered $1,560,000 in purse money.

Between the Wings

Laird George, a longtime assistant to Richard Valentine, picked up his first win as an official trainer since 2001 when Clarke Ohrstrom homebred Mr. Bridger won a handicap hurdle at Foxfield in April. George and Valentine teamed up to engineer the career of 2014 steeplechase champion Demonstrative. Before that, George's flat stable won a Grade 3 turf stakes with Batique in 2001. . . Steeplechase results routinely feature **horses bred in the Mid-Atlantic** and the 2022 results book was no different. Maryland-breds showed the way with wins by Awesome Adrian, Make a Stand, Road to Oz, Include It, Who's Counting, Junior Senator and Lear Avia. Pennsylvania-breds Criticize, Master Seville, Cup of Aiken and Brevard Place also scored while Jump Ship spoke up for the Virginia-breds. . . Brion missed the spring with 2021 Eclipse Award winner **The Mean Queen (Ire)**, but was aiming for a summer return. The 6-year-old mare had options with two Grade 1 races slated for Saratoga, another at Belmont,

plus a $100,000 filly/mare stakes at Colonial Downs all leading to the $250,000 American Grand National-G1 at Far Hills, N.J., in October. . . Trainer **Cyril Murphy** won two nice races for owner Irv Naylor. Chief Justice (GB) got things started with a win in the $50,000 Daniel Van Clief Memorial handicap hurdle at Foxfield April 30. The 7-year-old won for the seventh time in his career, and second since coming to the United States in 2019. Two weeks later at Nashville, Scorpion's Revenge (Ire) came from well back early to win the $75,000 Green Pastures Stakes for novice hurdlers. The 6-year-old has won two of three, with a second, over hurdles. The owner/trainer combination also picked up a maiden timber win with Maryland-bred Junior Senator, a half-brother to three-time Maryland Hunt Cup winner Senior Senator. Naylor's stable won six in the spring to take the early lead among the owners with $225,050 . . . Trainer **Sean McDermott** won with his first two starters of 2022—handicapper Gaye Breeze (Ire) for Petticoats Loose Farm and maiden Who's Counting for owner/breeder South Branch Equine. Both horses later finished second in tougher company. . . Beyond the owners' race, a standings look included 21 wins for **Leslie Young** atop the trainers' list. The figure would have won the last two NSA training titles. Keri Brion was second with 14 wins, followed by Jack Fisher with seven. **Parker Hendriks** won 12 races to take the lead among the jockeys. Visiting apprentice Freddie Procter was second with 10, followed by Tom Garner and Teddy Davies with seven each and 2021 champion Graham Watters at six. ■

Young takes lead among trainers with 21 spring wins

BY SEAN CLANCY

Leslie Young had a good year one season. The Pennsylvania-based trainer dominated the spring steeplechase schedule, winning 21 races from 56 starts to lead the trainers' standings by seven over Keri Brion and 14 over Jack Fisher. Young's win total would have won four of the last 11 overall National Steeplechase Association titles.

Yeah, that's how good it went.

Young won 11 timber races during the spring, including the Virginia Gold Cup with 12-year-old Andi'amu (Fr) and the My Lady's Manor with 2021 timber champion Tomgarrow (Ire).

"It's been fantastic," Young said in June. "We brought some old boys back, it's nice to have them be successful. My maidens have been placed, I was hoping to have a few more of them. Just trying to put the horses in the right spots and it's worked out."

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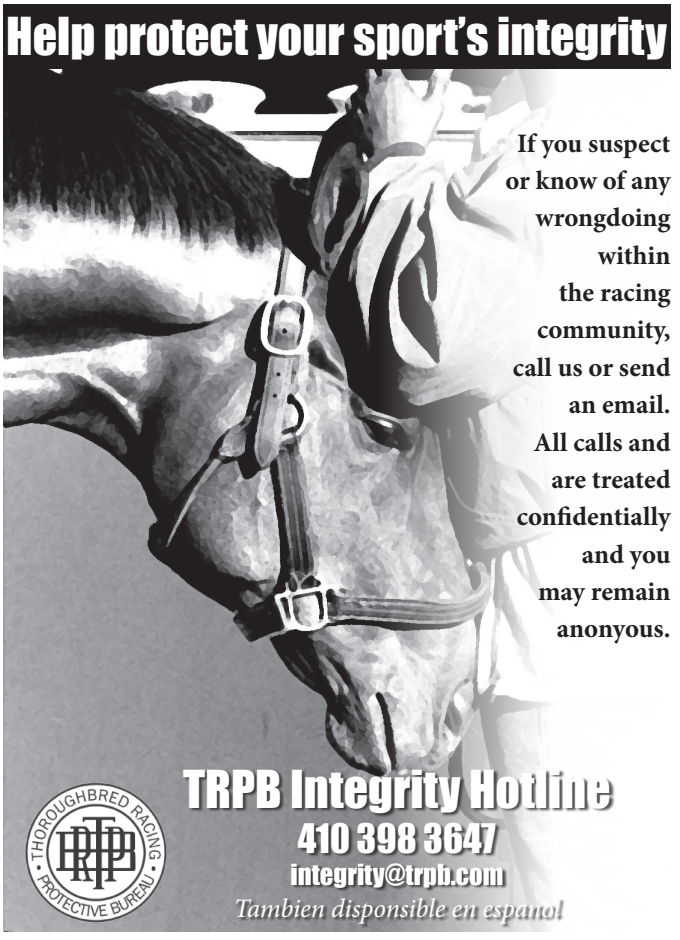
Like seeds in a tilled garden. Young won the first two races of the season at Aiken March 26–a training flat (which doesn't count among the 21) with Duckett's Grove and a maiden hurdle with Bee Major–to announce the arrival. The quick start rolled into more as she won at least one race every weekend, including a triple at the Virginia Gold Cup May 7, a five-win bonanza at Iroquois and Willowdale May 14 and another triple at Radnor May 21.

Andi'amu dominated an attritional edition of the $100,000 Virginia Gold Cup, drawing off to win by 23 lengths over heavy ground to provide the highlight of a highlight-reel season. The French-bred joined Young in 2015, won twice and placed in Grade 1 stakes over hurdles before converting to timber in 2018. He won six of his first seven starts over timber, including the 2019 Virginia Gold Cup before going off course in the 2020 Virginia Gold Cup. The Ballybristol Farm stalwart missed all of 2021 before winning the Virginia Gold Cup and the Willowdale timber feature a week later this spring.

"That was fantastic," Young said. "The Virginia Gold Cup is such an important race for anyone, for him to come back after going off course, off the layoff, it was great for him. He's a cool horse to be around, he's my all-time leading money earner, what a good boy, we've had him since he was 4, it's great we've had him that long."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Leslie Young talks about Andi'amu's Virginia Gold Cup win.

Joining veterans Tom Garner and Harrison Beswick in Young's dugout, apprentice jockey Freddie Procter accounted for nine of Young's timber haul, including the double on Andi'amu and the Manor with Tomgarrow.

"Winning at the Manor was emotional, that's a big deal. Those old Maryland races mean so much to people, I remember going to those races with my parents. That was a special day," Young said. "I don't understand how people can train horses without having a jockey in the barn. Freddie helped, I just felt like we needed to find someone for the timber horses, especially going the Maryland route. I tried a couple of people in Ireland and it didn't work out. Freddie was in England, he just really fit into our operation."

Procter went home for the summer and could be back by fall.

Training from the former base of Hall of Fame trainer Jonathan Sheppard in Pennsylvania, Young has already eclipsed her best seasons of 15 wins in 2021 and 2019.

"We have a really good group in the barn, we're lucky, we have three jockeys in the barn, that's huge, everybody seems to get along. I'm thankful for the owners, the staff who jogged the roads all winter. I'm appreciative of that. We have really nice horses, if we didn't have them, we wouldn't have anything." ■

Maryland Horse®

July 2022 | Official publication of the Maryland Horse Breeders Association; Vol. 87, No. 7

Maryland Horse Breeders Association Inc.

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Can the Queen adds another star to Kaye program

By Joe Clancy

Make some room Phlash Phelps, Action Andy, I'm Betty G, Air Token, Baltimore Belle, Baltimore Bob and so on . . . breeder Carol Kaye is still adding to her success story even if–by her description–she's only marginally still in the business.

"I sold my farm a couple years ago as it all got to be a little bit too much," said Kaye after Can the Queen won Pimlico's The Very One Stakes on Black-Eyed Susan Day May 20. "I only have retired mares now."

In the next sentence, she mentioned a recently foaled Mosler filly out of the Honour and Glory mare Lady in Ermine (dam of Maryland-bred champion I'm Betty G), so Kaye-bred horses aren't gone from the region just yet. Winners certainly aren't, as Can the Queen knocked off eight others in the $100,000 The Very One. Sent to the front by Victor Carrasco, the 6-year-old mare set every fraction before stopping the timer at :57.09 for 5 furlongs on the turf. She won by 1½ lengths over favored Gulfstream Park allowance winner Honey Pants with longshot Whispurring Kitten third.

The stakes win confirmed the promise trainer Rudy Sanchez-Salomon saw in the daughter of Can the Man and Kaye's mare Queenterra as a 3-year-old in 2019, though to hear him tell it the interview process went both ways.

Maryland-bred Can the Queen scores in Pimlico's The Very One Stakes on the Black-Eyed Susan card.

"I went to look at her, I patted her and she looked at me like, 'Hmmm. OK, we've got a really good connection,'" said the trainer. "I said I'd take her, but she took me."

Can the Queen won her debut in a $16,000 maiden claimer at Laurel Park in September 2019. She won twice more in 2020, and became a stakes winner in Pimlico's Sensible Lady Turf Dash last July before wrapping up 2021 with an optional claimer win (she ran for a $35,000 tag) at Laurel in October.

Back to work in April, she faced males in the King T. Leatherbury Stakes at Laurel April 23 and finished fourth behind classy turf sprinters True Valour (Ire), Grateful Bred and Battle Station. Can the Queen used that race as a launchpad for Preakness Weekend.

"When I enter this kind of horse, one that I have some confidence in, I try not to even look at the overnight when it comes out," Sanchez-Salomon said. "I just try to trust my in-

stincts and the confidence in the horses, especially after the last race against the boys. She ran a hell of a race and Victor said we would win the next time."

The trainer/jockey conversation in the paddock for the The Very One was short.

"Don't ask me," Sanchez-Salomon said to Carrasco. "You say you can win it. Go ahead and win it."

Mission accomplished. Can the Queen won for the sixth time and pushed her earnings to $243,853. Kaye loved it, but paid full credit to a prudent decision to add to her broodmare band in 2010. Bred by Adena Springs, Queenterra was unraced, but came from the stakes-producing family of her dam Mountain Orchid, Grade 1 winner Devil's Orchid and Grade 3 winner Unification among others. In foal to Tiago at Keeneland November, the bay daughter of Empire Maker cost $16,000 with Davant Latham bidding on behalf of Kaye.

"I picked her out of the catalog, but couldn't get there so he looked at her for me," said Kaye. "He described her to me. I liked the pedigree behind her. She was in foal to Tiago, and we weren't really sure about him, but she was a nice type of mare to buy and I thought I'd take a shot."

The Tiago foal, a colt eventually named Irresistable Me, sold for $115,000 as a yearling. Queenterra went to Into Mischief–before he became the leading sire on the continent–in 2011 and 2013. Both foals became winners. Kaye liked that Into Mischief cross, but wasn't affording his new stud fee a few years later and chose his son Can the Man.

Can the Queen was born in 2016, and grew too fast and too big to make a yearling sale or a 2-year-old sale. Kaye sent her to her son Geoff Garcia and Katie Domino for some early work, but even being a racehorse was up for debate.

"She was really nice, we just ended up taking our time with her and just giving her time to grow," said Kaye. "I think Katie had thoughts of turning her into a three-day eventer. Rudy thought he could make a racehorse out of her and it has worked out really well. Of course, I was trying to breed for distance on the turf and I ended up with a sprinter on the turf."

Like many Thoroughbred stories, this one includes some sadness as Queenterra and her foal of 2019 died during delivery. Kaye would prefer to focus on the foals who lived, especially the one who turned into a stakes winner.

"It's not an easy thing," she said of breeding Thoroughbreds. "Breeding's a tough business, but it's interesting. I'm very proud of Can the Queen and I've kept my foot in the door with a few others."

Can't wait to see that Mosler filly. ❧

Jonathan Thomas to judge 2022 MHBA Yearling Show

Jonathan Thomas, trainer of the versatile Grade 1 winner Catholic Boy, will judge the 88th annual Maryland Horse Breeders Association Yearling Show. Open to all yearlings eligible for Maryland-bred registration, the show will be Sunday, July 24 at the Maryland State Fairgrounds' horse show ring in Timonium.

Thomas was born in Virginia and raised at Paul Mellon's famed Rokeby Farm, where his grandfather, father and mother all worked. Growing up around quality horses, Thomas was 13 when Mellon's homebred Sea Hero won the Kentucky Derby. Twenty-five years later as a trainer, he sent out Catholic Boy to win Grade 1s on the turf and dirt, the latter in Saratoga's Travers Stakes. It was only the third time that an American 3-year-old accomplished the Grade 1 dirt/turf double, following Secretariat and California Chrome.

©Tod Marks

Before going out on his own, Thomas was an assistant for leading trainers Christophe Clement, Dale Romans and Todd Pletcher, and spent a year training in Saudi Arabia. He also worked in sales and breaking with J.J. Pletcher in Ocala, Fla., and over the years built up a business buying, breaking and training Thoroughbreds at Bridlewood Farm in Ocala.

Long before those jobs, he worked for steeplechase trainer Jack Fisher, and rode jump races.

Since saddling his first runners in 2005, he has a win percentage of 24, and more than half his starters have finished in the top three.

The list of judges in the MHBA Yearling Show's long history is a who's who of renowned horsemen. The celebrated group includes 26 Hall of Famers, and Triple Crown-winning trainers James "Sunny Jim" Fitzsimmons, Max Hirsch, Lucien Laurin and Billy Turner.

Among Maryland-bred yearlings to have competed in the show are Eclipse Award-winning Hall of Famer Safely Kept, Eclipse Award-winning juveniles Smart Angle and Declan's Moon, 2019 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf-G1 winner Sharing, and millionaires Cathryn Sophia, Urbane, Eighttofasttocatch and Cherokee's Boy. ❧

Maryland Foal Report

ARCH ENEMY, by Arch, ch.f., May 16, by Good Samaritan. Barak Farm. Mare to Barbados.

BAZINGA B, by Lion Hearted, dk.b./br.c., May 4, by Uncle Lino. Joseph Besecker.

BE MY CANDY, by Candy Ride (Arg), b.c., May 2, by Hoppertunity. A. Delaperriere Stables LLC.

BEST MOM EVER, by After Market, ch.f., April 5, by Blofeld. Charles Blanford.

CARAMORE, by Purge, ch.f., May 13, by Barbados. Shamrock Farm. Mare to Outflanker.

CAROLINA TAPPER, by Tapit, ch.f., May 10, by Goldencents. Wes Carter.

CHESTNUT GROVE, by Street Cry (Ire), dk.b./br.c., May 24, by Good Magic. Timothy J. Rooney.

DELIGHTFULLSTORM, by Stormy Atlantic, ch.f., May 3, by Irish War Cry. Stephen Ferguson.

ECLIPTICAL MARY, by In Summation, gr./ro.c., May 13, by Caravaggio. Maria Haire.

ECLIPTICALSPHARAOH, by Eclipticalspraline, b.c., May 6, by Global Campaign. Maria Haire.

GREAT HOSTESS, by Great Notion, ch.f., March 8, by Goldencents. Charles Blanford.

INGLORIOUS SONG, by Broken Vow, b.c., May 7, by Echo Town. Barak Farm and Dinos Thoroughbreds LLC.

MISS NOSY, by Louis Quatorze, ch.c., May 18, by Biblical. MCA Racing Stable.

ONEMORETIMEAGAIN, by Love of Money, b.c., May 23, by Lookin At Lucky. Clover Hill Farm Inc.

PARADE OF COLORS, by Leading the Parade, ch.c., April 20, by Divining Rod. John E. Williamson III.

REGAL MADAME, by Colonel John, b.c., May 6, by Alliance. Maria Haire.

SCAURI, by Ghostzapper, dk.b./br.f., May 9, by Maclean's Music. The Elkstone Group LLC. Mare to Not This Time.

Golden Lad filly out of stakes winner Onearmedbandit is a half-sister to 11-time stakes winner Anna's Bandit.

George Admas

Demarchelier (GB) filly out of the Kitten's Joy mare Vibrant Spirit was bred by Wasabi Ventures Stables, LLC, Michael J. Dzik and Greenspring Mares.

SHORT HILL KIT KAT, by Domestic Dispute, b.f., May 31, by Golden Lad. John Daniel.

No Guts No Glory Farm is the breeder of G's Treasure's filly by Imagining.

Hickory Ridge Farm's Paynter filly is the second foal for the Afleet Alex mare Spring Run.

SILVERTONGUEDIVA, by Arch, b.f., May 13, by Cloud Computing. Barak Farm.

Maryland Fund Report

Bonuses paid for races at Maryland tracks
March 1 to March 31, 2022

Conniver Stakes

March 19. Purse $75,000-guaranteed. For 4-year-olds and up, fillies and mares, registered Maryland-bred or Maryland sired. 7 fur. 5 competed. (Closed with 15 nominations.) Winner: FILLE D'ESPRIT, by Great Notion. Breeder bonus: Sweet Spirits Stables LLC ($13,500). Stallion bonus: Great Notion Syndicate ($4,500). Second: KISS THE GIRL, by Into Mischief. Breeder bonus: Classic Thoroughbred XII ($4,500). Stallion bonus: None. Third: ARTFUL SPLATTER, by Bandbox. Breeder bonus: Ann B. Jackson ($2,250). Stallion bonus: Bandbox Syndicate ($750).

Not For Love Stakes

March 19. Purse $75,000-guaranteed. For 4-year-olds and up, registered Maryland-bred or Maryland sired. 6 fur. 7 competed. (Closed with 18 nominations.) Winner: WHERESHETOLDMETOGO, by El Padrino. Breeder bonus: David H. Wade ($13,500). Stallion bonus: None. Second: JAXON TRAVELER, by Munnings. Breeder bonus: Dr. and Mrs. A. Leonard Pineau ($4,500). Stallion bonus: None. Third: AIR TOKEN, by Golden Lad. Breeder bonus: Carol A. Kaye ($2,250). Stallion bonus: Golden Lad Syndicate ($750).

Breeder bonuses

Includes the additional 10 percent Maryland-sired bonus for winners of maiden races, initiated Jan. 1 during the 2022 Laurel winter meet. That bonus is reflected in the second figure earned for the race.

Anchor and Hope Farm Inc.—Al Loves Josie: March 11, 8th race, $1,584. My Boss: March 27, 5th race, $2,640. ($4,224)

Barak Farm—Stroll Smokin: March 5, 1st race, $6,831.

William Bayne and Super C Racing—Bliss This: March 19, 5th race, $1,287.

Patricia Beck and Richard C. Beck—Ludicrous Mode: March 25, 3rd race, $3,366.

Teresa L. Beste—Demo Doctor: March 26, 7th race, $1,320.

Best Foot Forward LLC—All About Audrey: March 20, 5th race, $1,386. Gallant Gold: March 20, 2nd race, $7,920. ($9,306)

Black Fox Farm—Auspicious Lad: March 13, 9th race, $1,039.50. Remembering Wilbur: March 18, 11th race, $2,079. ($3,118.50)

Charles Blanford—Uncle Irish: March 25, 8th race, $3,168.

David Benjamin Bloom—Bullets Lady: March 4, 1st race, $3,366.

Richard F. Blue Jr.—The Last Scip: March 18, 11th race, $1,039.50.

Bonita Farm—Calypso Ghost: March 20, 8th race, $825. Sommer Velvet: March 26, 3rd race, $1,138.50. ($1,963.50)

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman—He Rolls: March 5, 9th race, $693.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Michael Bishop—Image Maker: March 13, 2nd race, $6,336.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Dr. Brooke Bowman—Cabra Chica: March 20, 6th race, $4,752. What Does It Take: March 19, 2nd race, $6,237. ($10,989)

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Quin Bowman and Rebecca Davis—Clubman: March 5, 4th race, $924.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Ricky Buckley and Joshua Dreiband—Dr. Ferber: March 6, 1st race, $1,452; March 27, 2nd race, $726. ($2,178)

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Rebecca Davis—Shady Munni: March 20, 2nd race, $2,640.

Bowman and Higgins Stable—Congress Hall: March 18, 7th race, $693. Rustys Gfivefifty: March 26, 5th race, $924. ($1,617)

Bowman and Higgins Stable and Dr. Brooke Bowman—Unrequited Love: March 27, 4th race, $1,584.

Shellaine Brown, Susan Baldrige, Horseshoe Valley, Treasure Stable—Going to the Lead: March 13, 6th race, $3,432.

William Andrew Campbell—Seven On the Rocks: March 27, 7th race, $1,584.

Dennis A. Cardoza—Captain Cardo: March 6, 6th race, $4,158.

Louis C. Carrico—Divine Proportion: March 11, 4th race, $1,122.

Wes Carter—Sunshineanrainbows: March 18, 6th race, $5,148.

Classic Thoroughbred XII—Kiss the Girl: March 19, 4th race, $4,500.

Classic Thoroughbred XXIX—Juror Number Four: March 5, 8th race, $3,432.

Clover Hill Racing LLC—Make It a Double: March 11, 1st race, $1,122; March 26, 10th race, $561. ($1,683)

Country Life Farm—Maid the Journey: March 6, 1st race, $726. Response Time: March 5, 6th race, $9,504. ($10,230)

Country Life Farm and Broken Trust Fund LLC—Wicked Prankster: March 19, 11th race, $2,112.

Country Life Farm and Fifteen Moons LLC—Moonsafe: March 20, 9th race, $1,320.

Country Life Farm and Sassy Molly LLC—Jebologist: March 25, 10th race, $1,716.

Country Life Farm and Will Do LLC—Bellswillberinging: March 6, 4th race, $4,158/$1,386. ($5,544)

Country Roads Ltd.—Utterly Courageous: March 20, 4th race, $1,287.

Dark Hollow Farm—Betcha by Golly: March 18, 6th race, $1,716.

Dark Hollow Farm and Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Davidov—Combat Queen: March 5, 6th race, $3,168.

Cynthia J. Darrah-Hipple—Lady Zeta: March 25, 9th race, $1,584.

Deer Creek Racing—Mo Fire: March 18, 1st race, $4,950/$1,650; March 27, 5th race, $1,320. ($7,920)

Estate of Robert T. Manfuso—Chauffeur: March 25, 2nd race, $693. Chica Rabiosa: March 11, 2nd race, $1,584; March 25, 1st race, $792. ($3,069)

Finn's Nickel LLC and Copper Penny Stables—Bourbon On the Bay: March 19, 2nd race, $1,039.50.

Robert E. Gamber—I Can Do It: March 4, 7th race, $1,287.

Robert J. Gerczak—Antipoison: March 27, 1st race, $3,366.

Sheryl Grant—Heaven's Got Fire: March 20, 7th race, $3,036. She's All Courage: March 20, 5th race, $4,158. ($7,194)

Fred A. Greene Jr., Deborah Greene and Hamilton Smith—Luna Belle: March 19, 9th race, $18,000.

Highclere and Five Hellions Farm—Free Square: March 20, 2nd race, $1,320.

Kyle Horlacher—Crabs N Beer: March 27, 8th race, $1,584.

Holly House Farm—Summer Odds: March 18, 8th race, $2,112.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Holt and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Palumbo—Shinelikeadiamond: March 25, 5th race, $2,079.

Ann B. Jackson—Artful Splatter: March 19, 4th race, $2,250.

Jagger Inc.—Holy Pink: March 6, 9th race, $693. Muchacho Macho: March 20, 1st race, $3,366. Stevethevandriver: March 18, 3rd race, $1,138.50. ($5,197.50)

R. Larry Johnson—Magic in Me: March 5, 5th race, $1,848. Whenigettoheaven: March 19, 5th race, $2,574. Who Knows What: March 5, 6th race, $1,584; March 19, 1st race, $6,534. ($12,540)

Carol A. Kaye—Air Token: March 19, 7th race, $2,250. Commanding General: March 13, 4th race, $4,158; March 26, 7th race, $2,640. ($6,798)

Steven D. Keil and Caitlin Keil—Aliferous: March 20, 7th race, $9,108.

Alan Kline Marital Trust, Frankie Kline, trustee—My My Girl: March 26, 8th race, $1,584.

Lady Olivia at North Cliff LLC—Holy Synchronicity: March 18, 11th race, $6,237/$2,079. ($8,316)

Andrea G. Lematta—Ice Rain: March 20, 3rd race, $693.

Lewis Family Racing Stable—Hunter Joe: March 13, 6th race, $10,296.

Kenneth F. Lowe Jr.—Special Freedom: March 5, 7th race, $1,650.

Marathon Farm Inc.—Abuelo Paps: March 27, 7th race, $3,168. Bustoff: March 4, 9th race, $1,848. Rockin Ron: March 18, 5th race, $561. Whirlin Curlin: March 13, 3rd race, $3,366; March 25, 3rd race, $561. ($9,504)

Daniel E. Marconi—Galerio: March 19, 8th race, $3,000.

Mary E. Eppler Racing Stable and A. Leonard Pineau—Amicalola Falls: March 25, 2nd race, $4,158.

William Meister and Julie Arbogast—Peace Out: March 20, 9th race, $2,640.

Kevin P. Morgan—Imagine the Mojo: March 11, 2nd race, $4,752. Mavilus: March 4, 3rd race, $825. Rahmer: March 19, 11th race, $6,336. ($11,913)

Morgan's Ford Farm—Treasure Tradition: March 26, 7th race, $7,920.

Murmur Farm—Goldenize: March 27, 8th race, $3,168.

Nancy Lee Farms—Eastern Bay: March 4, 5th race, $5,544. Polish Cookie: March 4, 7th race, $2,574. ($8,118)

No Guts No Glory Farm—Bandits Warrior: March 4, 8th race, $3,168. Fuhgeddaboudit: March 4, 8th race, $1,584. ($4,752)

Ronald Harris Parker—Baltimore Bulleit: March 13, 9th race, $6,237/$2,079. ($8,316)

A. Leonard Pineau—No More Mask: March 5, 5th race, $5,544.

Dr. and Mrs. A. Leonard Pineau—Alpha Queue: March 20, 1st race, $561. Jaxon Traveler: March 19, 7th race, $4,500. Miss Foxann: March 25, 5th race, $6,237. Paint Music for Me: March 13, 3rd race, $561. ($11,859)

Darci Rice—Had the Notion: March 26, 10th race, $1,122.

Cynthia K. Rickman—Crownedcountcristo: March 6, 3rd race, $1,089.

Eric A. Rizer and Nancy M. Rizer—Subject to Change: March 13, 4th race, $693.

Nancy M. Rizer and Eric A. Rizer—Princess Kokachin: March 13, 8th race, $12,474.

Timothy J. Rooney—Strike Magic: March 5, 7th race, $4,950.

Alexandro Rubim-Dias—Award Wanted: March 4, 6th race, $9,504.

Shamrock Farm—Albertano: March 27, 2nd race, $1,452. Ran Char: March 26, 10th race, $3,366. ($4,818)

Mary Slade—Island Philo: March 20, 4th race, $2,574.

Hamilton A. Smith—I'm Gittin There: March 11, 6th race, $7,920.

Matt Spencer and Kelly Cox—Ain't Da Beer Cold: March 13, 7th race, $3,432.

Spendthrift Farm LLC—Breviary: March 6, 5th race, $825; March 18, 7th race, $1,386; March 26, 4th race, $4,950. ($7,161)

St Augustine Manor LLC—Emma Devine: March 5, 5th race, $924.

Sweet Spirits Stables LLC—Fille d'Esprit: March 19, 4th race, $13,500.

Sycamore Hall Thoroughbreds LLC—Honor Your Mother: March 19, 1st race, $2,178. I'm Not Slow: March 5, 9th race, $1,386; March 27, 9th race, $4,158. Smart Eulee: March 18, 9th race, $2,079. ($9,801)

Thomas L. Teal—Rad Paisley: March 6, 7th race, $4,950.

The Elkstone Group LLC—Click to Confirm: March 19, 9th race, $3,000. Joe: March 19, 10th race, $6,000. Lifespan: March 20, 3rd race, $1,386. Monster Mason: March 27, 6th race, $2,178. Plot the Dots: March 26, 9th race, $11,088. Red Wine Time: March 5, 3rd race, $4,158. The Addison Pour: March 25, 8th race, $1,584. ($29,394)

The Etched Racing Partnership—Acadian Girl: March 26, 4th race, $1,650.

Thornmar Farm LLC—Canoodle: March 18, 8th race, $6,336. Must Be Love: March 19, 5th race, $7,722. Royal Thunder: March 6, 3rd race, $2,178; March 27, 6th race, $6,534. ($22,770)

David H. Wade—Miss Chesapeake: March 25, 6th race, $9,504. Whereshetoldmetogo: March 19, 7th race, $13,500. ($23,004)

Wasabi Ventures Stables LLC, Greenspring Mares LLC, Bowman and Higgins Stable and Gregory Caliwag—Local Motive: March 19, 10th race, $3,000.

Konrad M. Wayson—Bear Force Won: March 11, 5th race, $9,504.

Mr. and Mrs. Bayne Welker Jr.—Deshackled: March 6, 7th race, $825.

WWCD LLC—Mattitude: March 20, 9th race, $7,920.

Maryland-bred top earners in 2022

(through June 1)

1. Knicks Go	$585,000	11. Fille d'Esprit	$110,000
2. Luna Belle	255,000	12. Summer Odds	105,525
3. Cordmaker	195,000	13. Lady Zeta	105,466
4. Joe	194,744	14. Mattitude	104,700
5. Mama G's Wish	142,785	15. Response Time	102,766
6. Proper Attire	132,738	16. Eastern Bay	102,432
7. Kiss the Girl	132,000	17. Bear Force Won	99,419
8. Going to the Lead	129,426	18. Goldenize	95,911
9. Jaxon Traveler	125,600	19. Click to Confirm	94,884
10. Princess Kokachin	110,185	20. Galerio	91,668

Stallion bonuses

BANDBOX (Artful Splatter: March 19, 4th race, $750. Bear Force Won: March 11, 5th race, $3,168): Bandbox Syndicate—$3,918.

BARBADOS (Albertano: March 27, 2nd race, $484. Island Philo: March 20, 4th race, $858): Shamrock Farm—$1,342.

BLOFELD (Crabs N Beer: March 27, 8th race, $528. Goldenize: March 27, 8th race, $1,056): Blofeld Syndicate—$1,584.

BOURBON COURAGE (Baltimore Bulleit: March 13, 9th race, $2,079. Bourbon On the Bay: March 19, 2nd race, $346.50. Make It a Double: March 11, 1st race, $374; March 26, 10th race, $187. She's All Courage: March 20, 5th race, $1,386. Utterly Courageous: March 20, 4th race, $429): Bourbon Courage Syndicate—$4,801.50.

BUFFUM (Commanding General: March 13, 4th race, $1,386; March 26, 7th race, $880. Shinelikeadiamond: March 25, 5th race, $693): Buffum Syndicate—$2,959.

DESPITE THE ODDS (Summer Odds: March 18, 8th race, $704. Unrequited Love: March 27, 4th race, $528): R. Larry Johnson—$1,232.

DIVINING ROD (Bliss This: March 19, 5th race, $429. Emma Devine: March 5, 5th race, $308. Local Motive: March 19, 10th race, $1,000. Rustys Gfivefifty: March 26, 5th race, $308): Divining Rod Syndicate—$2,045.

DORTMUND (Sommer Velvet: March 26, 3rd race, $379.50): Kaleem S. Shah.

ETCHED (Calypso Ghost: March 20, 8th race, $275): Bonita Farm Stallion Partnership.

FREEDOM CHILD (Ain't Da Beer Cold: March 13, 7th race, $1,144. Free Square: March 20, 2nd race, $440. Special Freedom: March 5, 7th race, $550): Freedom Child Syndicate—$2,134.

FRIESAN FIRE (Mo Fire: March 18, 1st race, $1,650; March 27, 5th race, $440. Shady Munni: March 20, 2nd race, $880): Friesan Fire Syndicate—$2,970.

GOLDEN LAD (Air Token: March 19, 7th race, $750. All About Audrey: March 20, 5th race, $462. Auspicious Lad: March 13, 9th race, $346.50. Crownedcountcristo: March 6, 3rd race, $363. Gallant Gold: March 20, 2nd race, $2,640. I'm Gittin There: March 11, 6th race, $2,640. Rahmer: March 19, 11th race, $2,112. Remembering Wilbur: March 18, 11th race, $693): Golden Lad Syndicate—$10,186.50.

GREAT NOTION (Fille d'Esprit: March 19, 4th race, $4,500. Fuhgeddaboudit: March 4, 8th race, $528. Had the Notion: March 26, 10th race, $374. Luna Belle: March 19, 9th race, $6,000. Mattitude: March 20, 9th race, $2,640. Peace Out: March 20, 9th race, $880. Smart Eulee: March 18, 9th race, $693. Stevethevandriver: March 18, 3rd race, $379.50. Treasure Tradition: March 26, 7th race, $2,640): Great Notion Syndicate—$18,554.50.

HEAVEN'S GLORY (JPN) (Heaven's Got Fire: March 20, 7th race, $1,012): The Stallion Company.

HOLY BOSS (Al Loves Josie: March 11, 8th race, $528. Holy Pink: March 6, 9th race, $231. Holy Synchronicity: March 18, 11th race, $2,079. My Boss: March 27, 5th race, $880): Holy Boss Syndicate—$3,718.

IMAGINING (Chica Rabiosa: March 11, 2nd race, $528; March 25, 1st race, $264. Image Maker: March 13, 2nd race, $2,112. Imagine the Mojo: March 11, 2nd race, $1,584): Imagining Syndicate—$4,488.

MOSLER (Bandits Warrior: March 4, 8th race, $1,056. Bellswillberinging: March 6, 4th race, $1,386. Moonsafe: March 20, 9th race, $440. Response Time: March 5, 6th race, $3,168. Sunshineanrainbows: March 18, 6th race, $1,716. Wicked Prankster: March 19, 11th race, $704): Mosler Syndicate—$8,470.

NICANOR (Ran Char: March 26, 10th race, $1,122): Nicanor Syndicate.

NORUMBEGA (Acadian Girl: March 26, 4th race, $550): Bonita Farm and Stuart Janney III LLC.

NOT FOR LOVE (Clubman: March 5, 4th race, $308): Not For Love Syndicate.

ORIENTATE (Mavilus: March 4, 3rd race, $275): The Stallion Company for Orientate Syndicate.

REDEEMED (Going to the Lead: March 13, 6th race, $1,144): Redeemed Syndicate.

ROCK SLIDE (Seven On the Rocks: March 27, 7th race, $528): Shamrock Farms.

SCIPION (The Last Scip: March 18, 11th race, $346.50): Scipion Syndicate.

SEVILLE (GER) (Bullets Lady: March 4, 1st race, $1,122. Polish Cookie: March 4, 7th race, $858): Seville Syndicate—$1,980.

STREET MAGICIAN (Cabra Chica: March 20, 6th race, $1,584. Demo Doctor: March 26, 7th race, $440. Whenigettoheaven: March 19, 5th race, $858): R. Larry Johnson—$2,882.

SUPER NINETY NINE (Breviary: March 6, 5th race, $275; March 18, 7th race, $462; March 26, 4th race, $1,650. Maid the Journey: March 6, 1st race, $242): Country Life Farm—$2,629.

THE THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY NEWSLETTER

Post Time

- News, views and insights that matter to breeders, owners and racing industry professionals - **July 2022** -

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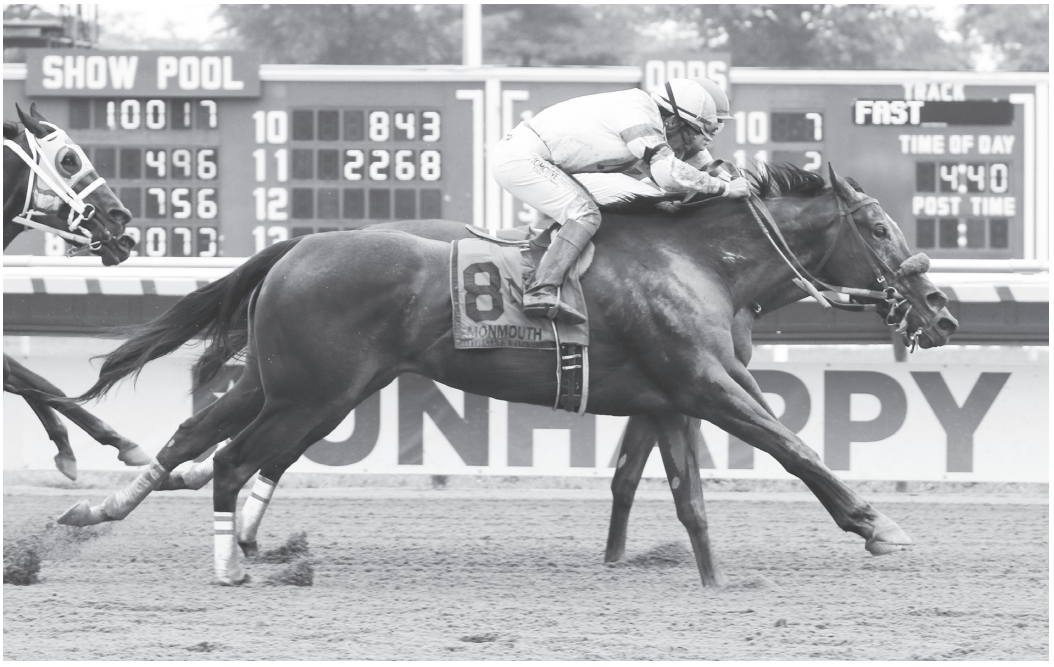
Law Legacy Stables is 2021 TOBA New Jersey Breeder of the Year



EQUI-PHOTO, INC.

Eleven North Handicap winner Alta Velocita was bred by Law Legacy Stables.

Joel Weiner's Law Legacy Stables has been named by the Thoroughbred Breeders and Owners Association (TOBA) as the 2021 Breeder of the Year in New Jersey. Law Legacy Stables will be honored during TOBA's 37th Annual National Awards Dinner in September.

Horses bred by Law Legacy Stables won 10 of 69 starts and earned $547,429 in 2021. Among the successful runners were Alta Velocita, who won six of her 10 starts including the $100,000 Eleven North Handicap at Monmouth Park. Additional runners include Postino's Vow, an earner of $109,216 during the year, and Postino's Idol, with $99,187 in 2021 earnings. All three are by Il Postino, who raced for Weiner and stood his entire career in New Jersey.

Il Postino, a 16-year-old son of Distorted Humor, was retired this year and now lives his life as a pensioner at Maui Meadow Farm in West Chester, Pa. He leads all Mid-Atlantic sires by average earnings per starter with an amazing $133,532 (from 14 runners).

Weiner, who was a great supporter of breeding and racing in the state, passed away in February at the age of 76.

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Royal Urn captures John J. Reilly Handicap

EQUI-PHOTO INC.

If the betting public was surprised that the "other" Kelly Breen horse captured the John J. Reilly Handicap at Monmouth Park May 15, the trainer insisted he wasn't.

Sent off at 17-1 following a 10-month layoff, Royal Urn outdueled No Cents – coming off a 17-month layoff – to score a half-length victory in the $85,000 feature race for Jersey-breds. The other horse that Royal Urn held off? Stablemate and half-brother Pickin' Time, the even-money favorite also trained by Breen. Pickin' Time, idle since Nov. 27, was another three-quarters of a length back.

"No. I'm not surprised," said Breen, seeking a fourth Monmouth Park training title. "This horse needed the rest. He hadn't had a rest since I had the horse. The horse needed his time off. He and Pickin' Time have been working together head and head for the last three workouts.

"I made a comment that I told [owner and breeder] John Bowers that Royal Urn is back. Not that Pickin' Time wasn't, but he does have a tendency to need a race off a layoff. So, no, I'm not surprised. He needed the rest. We gave him the time and the opportunity to recover and he came back the way he was two years [ago]."

It was in the summer of 2020 that Royal Urn, a son of Kantharos, won his first Reilly Handicap. He was fifth in the race a year ago – his last start of the year.

Ridden by Jose Gomez, who is in his first full year as a jockey, Royal Urn was sixth early in a tight pack in the 6-furlong race, with Gomez finding room outside entering the final turn. Royal Urn was in full flight coming wide out of the turn, engaging with No Cents, who had slipped through along the rail to take the lead.

The two went nose-to-nose for the final sixteenth of a mile.

"I broke well, just not as sharp as I wanted him to break. We were in a little tight. I had to get behind horses," said Gomez, who served as Breen's exercise rider a year ago. "When I saw an opening coming into the turn I went for it and once I got him on the outside and clear he just started going. I didn't take away his momentum. I let him go however he wanted to and in the stretch he was tough.

"Honestly, yes, I was surprised he was this sharp off the layoff. You don't expect a horse to be this ready off a layoff like that. But Kelly was telling me he has been working really well against Pickin' Time."

For the 21-year-old Gomez it marked his first stakes victory at Monmouth Park.

Royal Urn paid $37.20 to win. The winning time over a track listed as "good" was 1:10.36.

No Cents, 4-for-5 as a 2-year-old in 2020, had not raced since. But trainer Cal Lynch had the son of Goldencents sharp off that prolonged layoff.

"No Cents was dynamite as a 2-year-old," said Breen. "I didn't think they would have this horse as tuned up as much as he was. He's a quality horse. Those were two good horses dueling in the stretch."

Alta Velocita rallies to win Spruce Fir Handicap

EQUI-PHOTO INC.

Imaginary Stables and M3 Racing Stable Alta Velocita kept her place at the top of the New Jersey-bred filly and mare sprint division by winning the $85,000 Spruce Fir Handicap for registered New Jersey-breds going 6 furlongs May 14 at Monmouth Park.

The 6-year-old mare by Il Postino out of Over the Bridge, by Hit the Trail, went off the 7-10 favorite, stalked the early lead set by Jersey Jewel before dropping back a bit on the turn. She rallied on the rail in the stretch to win by a length.

Trained by Andrew Simoff and ridden by Paco Lopez, Alta Velocita was fresh off a three-month layoff, splashing home in 1:12.07 for her second stakes victory in 20 career starts. Winner of the Eleven North Handicap last August, she has eight career wins, six coming at Monmouth Park.

Longshot I'm Listening was second in the field of nine fillies and mares, 2 lengths ahead of Bramble Bay.

Bred by Law Legacy Stables, Alta Velocita has now earned more than $385,000 in her career.

THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY

Membership Application

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A check or money order for $65.00 must accompany this form. Spouses are encouraged to join the **TBANJ** under joint membership status. This fee would total $100.00 per couple. Each spouse must fill out a separate form to accompany the payment. Membership will be effective upon receipt and will be in force each calendar year and must be renewed annually.

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(732) 542-8880
email: njbreds@gmail.com

North Carolina

THOROUGHBRED ASSOCIATION

July 2022

President's message

I am delighted to include in this edition of our newsletter a recap of The Queen's Cup Steeplechase race, founded by members William and Carrington Price. I'd like to thank them for allowing me to republish the article and photo from the event.

Congratulations to Beth Muirhead for Tough to Tame's win. For all those who had runners, kudos.

- Rebecca

Irvin S. Naylor's FRENCH LIGHT (Fr) (left), trained by Keri Brion and ridden by Parker Hendriks, gets his first stakes win in the $50,000 Queen's Cup MPC Novice Chase by three-quarters of length over Holwood Stable's DECISIVE TRIUMPH. Tod Marks Photo.

Queen's Cup recap: French Light shines in novice stake at Queen's Cup Silver Jubilee

The Queen's Cup Steeplechase Races, located in historic Mineral Springs, N.C., finally came off the Covid sidelines April 30 after a two-year hiatus and welcomed a sold-out, record crowd of over 15,000 patrons to a beautiful, sunny, warm spring day. The Charlotte Steeplechase Foundation, producers of the Queen's Cup Steeplechase, offered $155,000 in purses and carded five jump races on the day. The feature race was the $50,000 Queen's Cup MPC 'Chase, in memory of Benefactors Jim and Midge Price, and attracted a very competitive four-horse field. The other four races attracted 21 runners between three maiden races and one Ratings Handicap. The day's activities benefit the Alzheimer's Association.

Fresh off a multi-win day at Middleburg, jockey Parker Hendriks and trainer Keri Brion teamed up with starters in every race. Brion and 18-year-old jockey Hendriks continued their tear, with three triumphs on the card, highlighted by French Light (Fr)'s performance in the Queen's Cup 'MPC Novice Stakes, his first stakes score in 16 tries. Irv Naylor's 7-year-old son of Muhtathir (GB) holds a special spot in Brion's heart. He was her final mount as a jockey, the first winner to run in her name, and the first horse to give the Naylors a victory in Saratoga as well as their first victory in a Queen's Cup stake.

French Light's Queen's Cup win was his first since back-to-back maiden and allowance victories at Colonial Downs and Saratoga in 2020. And he had to be at his best to outlast Holwood Stable and Port Lairge Stable's Decisive Triumph and Jamie Bargary in a dramatic and prolonged stretch duel.

French Light and Hendriks were content to sit last in the four-horse field for the first mile and a half of the 2⅜-mile contest. Decisive Triumph had the lead into the stretch and held his ground, relinquishing the lead only in the final strides. The margin of victory was three-quarters of a length.

Next year's Queen's Cup will be held on Saturday, April 29.

North Carolina Thoroughbred Association

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Racing Review

Tough to Tame – Speightster out of She'sa Tough Tiger, by Tiger Ridge, won at Hawthorne May 13 for breeder Beth Muirhead. The 3-year-old colt ran 1 mile, 70 yards in 1:41.50 racing in traffic along the rail through the first turn. Set back off the leaders up the backstretch, he started gaining ground near the three-eighth-pole passing his rivals and pulled clear winning by 3½ lengths.

Hurtgen Forest – Americain out of Bourbon Twist, by Langfuhr, came in second while racing 2⅛ miles over fences in Charlotte at the Queen's Cup Steeplechase event April 30 for breeders and owners William and Carrington Price's Carrington Holdings LLC. The 4-year-old gelding went straight to the lead, putting as much as 15 lengths in front of his rivals. He held the lead until the last fence when he was passed by the winner near the finish.

Cainudothetwist – Americain out of Bourbon Twist, by Langfuhr, ran second in a 2-mile race over fences in Charlotte at the Queen's Cup Steeplechase event April 30 for breeders and owners William and Carrington Price's Carrington Holdings LLC. The 5-year-old mare raced at the back of the pack until approaching the last fence and stretch when she found a new gear, passing all rivals but one as she fell short on catching the winner.

Tench – Majesticperfection out of Biorra, by Smoke Glacken, ran second May 4 in a Thisletown allowance for owner Carolina Cooper-Check Racing. The 6-year-old gelding ran 5½ furlongs on a sealed muddy track breaking from post three. He made a game effort dueling for the lead but came short by a half length.

My Dixie Lass – Blofeld out of Missdixieactivist, by Activist, ran second on May 7 at Penn National for breeder and owner Jim Chandley. The 3-year-old filly ran 1 mile, 70 yards on a sloppy sealed track in the rain. Stalking the pace from outside the leaders, she made a move at the quarter pole and challenged for the lead down the stretch, finishing well ahead of her foes but missed the win by a neck.

Rockin Anna Rollin – Fast Anna out of Rockhouse, by Chelsey Cat, came in second in a 4½-furlong race at Charles Town May 20 for breeder Nancy Shuford. The 5-year-old bay mare broke from post position one in the first race. She ran on a fast track and set a brisk pace, widening the lead but got caught in the final yards to finish just a length behind the winner.

Sag Harbor – Palace out of Dynamite Dame, by El Prado (Ire), came in third at Keeneland April 28 for breeder Nancy Shuford. The 5-year-old chestnut horse broke from post three to run 6 furlongs on a fast track.

Guileful – Cairo Prince out of Shot Gun Pennie, by Speightstown, ran third in an allowance at Woodbine April 30 for breeder and owner William Thompson, Jr. The 3-year-old dark bay filly broke from post five while racing 1⅟₁₆ miles on the All-Weather track.

Flat Out Flying - Flat Out out of She'sa Tough Tiger, by Tiger Ridge, ran third at Parx Racing May 11 for breeders Elizabeth Muirhead and Frank Coniglio. The 6-year-old chestnut gelding broke from post one in the 1 mile and 70 yards allowance on a fast track.

Admonish (NC) – Mosler out of Adjudicate, by Jump Start, ran third at Woodbine May 14 for breeder/owner William Thompson Jr. The 4-year-old dark bay North Carolina-bred filly broke from post four in the 1⅟₁₆-mile claimer on a fast All-Weather track.

North Carolina Thoroughbred Association

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Thank you for your support.

PENNSYLVANIA HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

PA Thoroughbred NEWSLETTER

July 2022
pabred.com

PA-BRED REMINDERS

- **Early registration:** Within 365 days of foaling
- **Yearling registration:** Dec. 31 of yearling year
- **Stallion registration:** Feb. 15 of year breeding
- **Broodmare domicile:** Dec. 1 or 14 days after a public sale or entering state if being bred back to PA-sire

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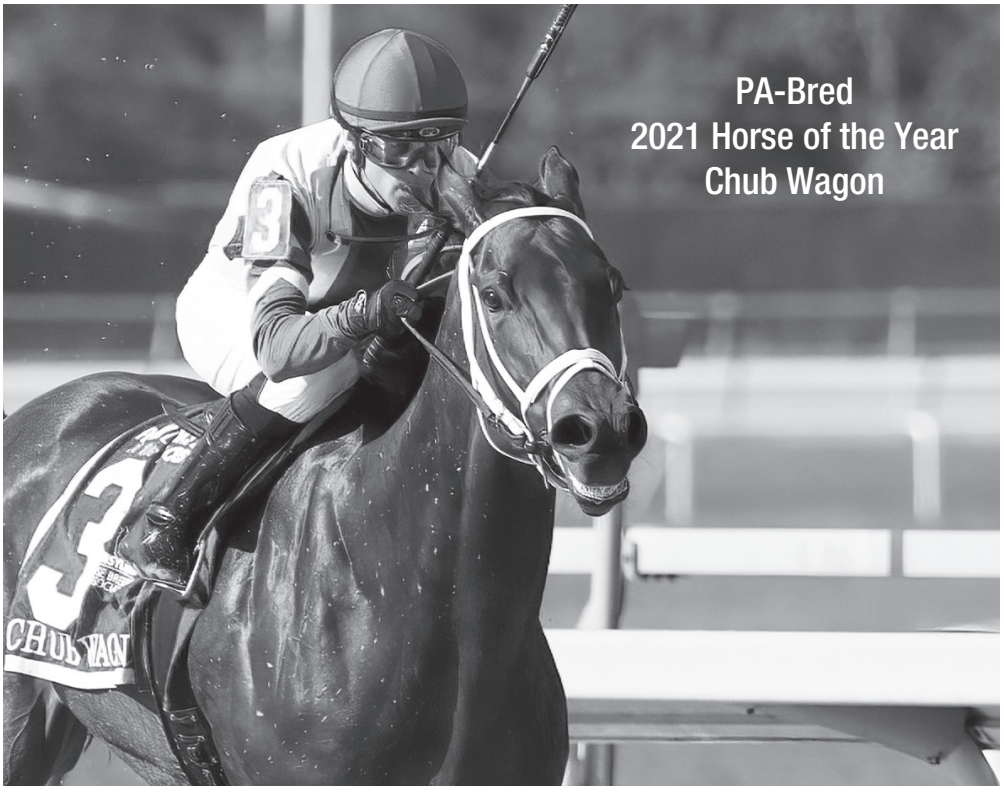
2021 Iroquois Awards



Horse of the Year
Older Female & Female Sprinter
CHUB WAGON
Bred by Joe-Dan Farm & George Chestnut

The richest PA-Bred of 2021 with $487,400, Chub Wagon led all state-breds by wins for the year when scoring in eight of her nine starts, and was second in her only loss. She won six stakes, four straight, starting with the Unique Bella at Parx (by 7½ lengths), Skipat and Shine Again at Pimlico, and Dashing Beauty at Delaware Park. After a second in the Dr. Teresa Garofalo Memorial at Parx, she romped by 4 in the Roamin Rachel and finished the season in the Plum Pretty, her first start beyond a mile.

2-Year-Old Male
DANCE CODE
Bred by Blackstone Farm LLC

The leading PA-Bred juvenile male by earnings in 2021, Dance Code banked nearly $160,000 with three wins at Parx, including the Parx Juvenile Stakes against open company, and a third-place finish in Saratoga's Grade 3 Sanford Stakes.

2-Year-Old Female
MORNING MATCHA
Bred by Crane Thoroughbred Services LLC

Morning Matcha's busy seven-start season saw her hit the board in all her starts while traveling from Monmouth Park to Saratoga, Presque Isle Downs, Parx and Aqueduct. She led all juvenile PA-Bred runners for the year with nearly $250,000 in earnings while finishing

second in Aqueduct's $500,000 New York Stallion Series Stakes and Presque Isle's Finest City Stakes.

3-Year-Old Male, Male Sprinter, PA-Preferred Male & Leading Breeding Fund Recipient (Horse)
BEREN
Bred by Susan C Quick & Christopher J Feifarek

Racing at least once a month from January through November, Beren won seven times, five in stakes—the Gold Fever and Paradise Creek (by 10¾ lengths) at Belmont Park, the Crowd Pleaser (by 9½ lengths) and Parx Summer Sprint (by 6½ lengths) at Parx, and the Danzig at Penn National—and was caught late when second in the Steel Valley Sprint at Mahoning Valley Race Course. He topped all PA-Bred 3-year-old runners with just shy of $470,000 in earnings from 12 starts.

3-Year-Old Female
LEADER OF THE BAND
Bred by SMD Ltd.

Facing graded stakes company three times in her seven starts at 3, Leader of the Band won the Monmouth Oaks-G3 by 2 lengths and was third in the Delaware Oaks-G3, and also finished second in the Cathryn Sophia Stakes at Parx while leading all PA-bred sophomore fillies with earnings over $280,000.

Older Male & Turf Male
THE CRITICAL WAY
Bred by Blackstone Farm LLC

Making seven straight stakes appearances, The Critical Way won three, was second once and third twice while sprinting on the turf in Florida, Kentucky, Maryland, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. His biggest victory came in the Grade 3 Parx Dash in which he dueled three wide throughout and battled to a thrilling nose victory in a three-horse finish. Other stakes wins came in the Tampa Bay's Turf Dash and Monmouth's Wolf Hill and in his first graded attempt he was third in Keeneland's Grade 2 Shakertown Stakes.

Turf Female
CARAVEL
Bred by Elizabeth M. Merryman

Racing exclusively in turf stakes in seven outings in 2021, including facing males in Grade 1 company, Caravel won three stakes in a row, topped by Saratoga's Grade 3 Caress after capturing the Goldwood at Monmouth Park and Pimlico's The Very One. Against males she finished third after setting the early fractions in the Grade 1 Highlander at Woodbine. Winning or placing in five of seven starts, she launched her season with a third in Belmont Park's License Fee Stakes.

PA-Preferred Female
VAULT
Bred by Barlar, LLC

The richest runner in 2021 for her late sire Jump Start, Vault recorded five top-two finishes from eight starts, for earnings to $267,000. Her signature victory was the Grade 2 Ruffian Stakes at Belmont Park; placings included seconds in Parx Racing's Mrs. Penny Stakes and Plum Pretty Stakes.

Broodmare of the Year
ZEEZEE ZOOMZOOM
Owned by Elizabeth M. Merryman
Dam of Caravel & Witty

Two of the first three foals out Lizzie Merryman's winning daughter of Congrats are 2021 PA-Bred stakes winners Caravel and Witty, both finalists for Iroquois Awards. Caravel became a graded stakes winner in 2021 and was Grade 1-placed, and Witty won the Pennsylvania Nursery Stakes.

Lifetime Achievement Award
GEORGE STRAWBRIDGE JR.

Award of Merit
BLACK OAK FARM

Thoroughbred Makeover Top PA-Bred
AIKEN PREP
Bred by Glenn Thompson

Leading Total Breeding Fund Recipient
NORTHVIEW STALLION STATION INC.
$438,108

Leading Overall Breeder of PA-Breds
BLACKSTONE FARM LLC
$2,989,525

Leading Breeder Award Recipient
BLACKSTONE FARM LLC
$277,162

Leading Stallion
JUMP START
$206,580

A few words from the Executive Secretary

Let me start with some great news. By the time this goes to print we should have a signed PA budget with zero dollars taken from the RHDTF. We thank the hard work of all involved within the Equine Coalition. Job well done!

Penn Mile night was a great success due to the hard work of Eric Johnston and his team. Our four PA-Bred $100,000 Stakes rounded out a fantastic night. Congrats to all our winning breeders and all the participants.

Nominations for the first two races in our 2YO PA-Bred PA-Sired series are set to close on July 11 at PARX. Those races will be run on PA Day at the Races on August 22. Remember, nominations are free but you must nominate to be eligible to enter. Total purses for that day will again be $1,000,000! Wow! Invitations to our big day will be sent shortly.

As breeding season comes to an end, we again thank all of our breeders for their support this year and wish everyone a great last half of 2022. Give us a call with any questions. Go PA!!

$50,000
in Trainer Bonuses
Awarded to trainers of the top 3 point-earning horses in the 4-race series. Details at PaBred.com

THE PENNSYLVANIA ADVANTAGE

Truly a WIN-WIN-WIN situation!

2022 2YO PA-SIRED PA-BRED ANNUAL STALLION SERIES

$600,000 in purses: 4 stakes, 2 each for 2yo's & 2yo fillies
$900,000 for 2023: 6 stakes, 3 each for 2yo's & 2yo fillies

STALLION FARMS: WIN!

- Attracts more broodmares to Pennsylvania
- Blacktype for Pennsylvania stallions
- More business
- Higher stud fees

BREEDERS: WIN!

- PA-sired PA-bred foals eligible to series
- Blacktype for PA broodmares
- Increased value for PA broodmares
- Higher prices at auctions & private sales

BUYERS: WIN!

- PA-sired PA-bred horses more desirable
- Quicker return on investment
- Blacktype for PA-sired PA-bred horses
- Increased value on purchases

It really does pay to breed & race in Pennsylvania

For more information go to pabred.com or call
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2022 PENNSYLVANIA-BRED STAKES SCHEDULE

PARX	Monday, April 25	**$100,000 PAGE MCKENNEY HANDICAP** 1st-Fortheluvofbourbon, 2nd-Beren, 3rd-I Am Redeemed	3 & up, 7 furlongs
		$100,000 UNIQUE BELLA STAKES 1st-Cinnabunny, 2nd-Ninetypercentbrynn, 3rd-Wildcat Cartridge	3 & up, f&m, 7 furlongs
PENN NATIONAL	Friday, June 3	**$100,000 DANZIG STAKES** 1st-Nimitz Class, 2nd-Uncle Buddy, 3rd-Center Mid Maddie	3YO, 6 furlongs
		$100,000 NEW START STAKES 1st-Bazinga C, 2nd-Golden Tabby, 3rd-New Hire	3YO fillies, 6 furlongs
		$100,000 LYPHARD STAKES 1st-Maldives Model, 2nd-Love in the Air, 3rd-Wildcat Cartridge	3 & up, f&m, 1 1/16 miles, turf
		$100,000 WITH ANTICIPATION STAKES 1st-Buy Land and See, 2nd-Lacco Ameno, 3rd-You Must Chill	3 & up, 1 1/16 miles, turf
PARX	Monday, June 27	**$100,000 CROWD PLEASER STAKES**	3YO, 1 1/16 miles, turf
		$100,000 POWER BY FAR STAKES	3 & up, f&m, 5 furlongs, turf
PRESQUE ISLE DOWNS	Monday, July 18	**$100,000 MALVERN ROSE STAKES**	3YO fillies, 6½ furlongs
PRESQUE ISLE DOWNS	Monday, July 25	**$100,000 PRINCESS OF SYLMAR STAKES**	3 & up, f&m, 1 mile 70 yards
PRESQUE ISLE DOWNS	Tuesday, July 26	**$100,000 HARD SPUN STAKES**	3 & up, 1 mile 70 yards
PA DAY AT THE RACES Monday, August 22 PARX		**$100,000 BANJO PICKER SPRINT STAKES**	3 & up, 6 furlongs
		$100,000 MARSHALL JENNEY HANDICAP	3 & up, 5 furlongs, turf
		$100,000 MRS. PENNY STAKES	3 & up, f&m, 1 1/16 miles, turf
		$100,000 STORM CAT STAKES	3 & up, 1 mile 70 yards
		$100,000 DR. TERESA GAROFALO MEM. STAKES	3 & up, f&m, 6 furlongs
		2YO PA-SIRED PA-BREDS:	
		$100,000 WHISTLE PIG STAKES	2YO, PA-Sired PA-Breds, 5½ furlongs
		$100,000 MISS BLUE TYE DYE STAKES	2YO fillies, PA-Sired PA-Breds, 5½ furlongs
PARX	Saturday, Sept. 24	**$200,000 ALPHABET SOUP HANDICAP**	3 & up, 1 1/16 miles, turf
		$200,000 PLUM PRETTY STAKES	3 & up, f&m, 1 mile 70 yards
		2YO PA-SIRED PA-BREDS:	
		$200,000 PRINCE LUCKY STAKES	2YO PA-Sired PA-Breds, 6½ furlongs
		$200,000 IMPLY STAKES	2YO fillies, PA-Sired PA-Breds, 6½ furlongs
PARX	Tuesday, Oct. 18	**3 & UP PA-SIRED PA-BREDS**	
		$100,000 JUMP START STAKES	3 & up, PA-Sired PA-Breds, 7 furlongs
PRESQUE ISLE DOWNS	Monday, Oct. 24	**$100,000 FINEST CITY STAKES**	2YO fillies, 6 furlongs
PRESQUE ISLE DOWNS	Tuesday, Oct. 25	**$100,000 MARK MCDERMOTT STAKES**	2YO, 6 furlongs
PENN NATIONAL	Friday, Nov. 25	**$200,000 SHAMROCK ROSE STAKES**	2YO fillies, 6 furlongs
PARX	Tuesday, Nov. 29	**$200,000 PENNSYLVANIA NURSERY STAKES**	2YO, 7 furlongs

Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association

We ARE Pennsylvania Racing

July 2022

Parx/PTHA Spring Starter Series Results

3 & Up Route Division

TIE: *Exit Right, Rough Sea*

Exit Right

Rough Sea

3 & Up Sprint Division

Get the W

We wrapped up the the inaugural Parx/PTHA Spring Starters Series with the top claiming horses of the season. Congratulations to all the winners!

F&M 3 & Up Route Division Winner: *Tomarie*

F&M 3 & Up Sprint Division Winner: *Dilly Dilly Philly*

6/11/22 - Owners, **Madison Avenue Racing Stable Inc., Dawn Witte, and Jagger Inc.'s** *Miss Dillingham* won the 1 & 1/8 mile Leg III Route Division starter race with trainer **Jamie Ness**, and jockey, **Ruben Silvera** for the $50,000 Purse.

6/14/22 - **Madison Avenue Racing Stable, Inc., Dawn Witte and Jagger Inc.'s** *Dilly Dilly Philly*, takes first in the 6 1/2 Furlong Leg III Sprint Division starter race with trainer **Jamie Ness**, and jockey **Ruben Silvera,** taking the $50,000 Purse.

Third Leg Results

6/11/22 - **Morris E. Kernan Jr., Yo Berbs Racing and Jagger Inc.'s**, *Exit Right*, caught the $50,000 in the 1 1/2 mile Leg III Route Division starter race with trainer, **Jamie Ness**, and jockey **Ruben Silvera.**

6/14/22 - **Lee Stables'**, *Jump Shot* takes first in the 7 Furlong Leg III Sprint Division starter race with trainer, **Haleem Lee**, and jockey, **Joezer Rangel** taking the $50,000 Purse.

PTHA Trophy Race Winners

Date	Horse	Jockey	Trainer	Owner
6-1-22	Breezy Gust	Dexter Haddock	Ernesto Padilla-Preciado	Mike Pimentel
6-11-22	Will Lemon Dance	Gerardo Milian	Ruperto Perez	Marco A. Arriaga
6-15-22	Bumperdoo	Ruben Silvera	Jaimie Ness	Kirwan Equine Group, Inc & Jagger Inc.

Photos: PTHA/Chad Harmon

It's Fun to See Them Run

Presented By: The Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association

Join hosts Dani Gibson and Dick Jerardi for the latest in Thoroughbred news, behind-the-scenes access, and more, every Saturday at 10 am on PHL-17! Craig Donnelly's Picks are available for Parx every raceday!

THE MATCH SERIES

On 6/14/2022 in the 8th race at **Parx**, *High Opinion,* won the **$100,000 Neshaminy MATCH Series Stakes** for owners **Woodford Racing, LLC** and **Team D** with trainer **Anthony Dutrow** and jockey **Flavien Prat.**

High Opinion, Match Series Neshaminy

For the 2nd **MATCH Series Stakes** at **Parx** on 6/14/2022, *Eons* captured the **$100,000 Bensalem MATCH Series Stakes** for owner **Mark B. Grier** with trainer **Arnaud Delacour** and jockey **Trevor McCarthy.**

Eons, Match Series Bensalem

Around the Ovals

On 6/10 *War Tocsin* & jockey **Dexter Haddock** ran third in the **$300,000 Gr. 2 True North Stakes** for owner and trainer **Uriah St. Lewis** behind the winner *Jackie's Warrior* going 6 1/2 furlongs at **Belmont Park.**

On 6/11 *Leader of the Band* & jockey **Isaac Castillo** rallied 3 wide into the stretch, winning the **$100,000 Lady's Secret Stakes** at **Monmouth Park** for trainer **John Servis** & owner and breeder **SMD, Limited** going the 1 mile & 1/16th distance over a sloppy track.

On 6/12 *Stand Up Comic* & jockey **Frankie Pennington** finished second in the **$150,000 Jersey Girl Stakes** at **Belmont Park** for trainer **Butch Reid, Jr.**, owners **Cash Is King LLC** & **LC Racing LLC** behind the decisive winner *Hot Peppers* going 6 furlongs.

Maiden Special Weight Winners

On 6/14/2022 in the 7th race at **Parx**, *Vedareo*, won the $42,000 Maiden Special Weight for owners **Swilcan Stable LLC** with trainer **Robert Reid, Jr.** and jockey **Frankie Pennington**!

On the same day, race 10 at **Parx**, *Gunfyre Gal*, captures the $34,000 Maiden Special Weight for owners **Jon A. Marshall** with trainer **John Servis** and once again jockey **Frankie Pennington**!

SERIOUS STAR POWER ON BELMONT STAKES DAY

Read Dick Jerardi's full Belmont Stakes talent breakdown!

https://patha.org/serious-star-power-on-belmont-stakes-day/

Join us on the PTHA YouTube and socials for Parx Racing on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday afternoons!

www.patha.org

Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association

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RACEHORSE RETIREMENT PROGRAM

SCTOBA

South Carolina

Thoroughbred Owners & Breeders Association

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

JULY 2022

Racing Across the Nation

Horses who went through the breaking process in South Carolina during their yearling year found their way to the winner's circle four times following stakes races between April 23 and May 21.

Kaylasaurus, a graduate of the Rentz Training Center, was last early on in the Primonetta Stakes at Laurel Park April 23. She launched her bid coming five wide approaching the stretch. In a determined drive, Kaylasaurus made the lead inside the sixteenth-pole and came home three-quarters of a length in front. In her 23 career starts, this mare has eight wins, five seconds and two thirds with career earnings of $319,793.

Three Technique also came from the back of the field to capture the Knicks Go at Churchill Downs on Kentucky Derby Day, May 7. Three Technique made a six-wide move circling the field during the final quarter mile and hit the wire a length in front. Three Technique learned his early lessons at the Travis Durr Training Center.

Miss Leslie notched her fifth stakes win proving best in the Serena's Song at Monmouth Park May 8. Miss Leslie sat right behind the pace, took the lead turning for home and proved much the best when crossing the finish line 4¼ lengths in front. Miss Leslie was prepared for her racing career by Travis Durr. With her eighth win she closed in on a half-million dollars in earnings.

Joe, owned by SCTOBA member Stuart Grant and developed by Donna Freyer at the Grant-owned Camden Training Center, won the James W. Murphy Stakes at Pimlico Preakness Day, May 21. Joe battled head-to-head with Ready to Purrform through the stretch, proving best by a neck. Joe has won five of his seven career starts, three

continued on next page

South Carolina Equine Advancement Act making progress

This session, Senate Bill 1128, introduced by Senator Katrina Shealy, made its way through the legislative process. The Bill was recommended to the committee on Family and Veterans Services and passed out favorably from subcommittee and full committee with unanimous support.

The bill was read across the desk for the first time and debated on the Senate Floor. This is the furthest any gaming legislation has gone since video poker.

The House version of the bill, H. 5085, did not gain much traction due to the absence of the Chairman of Judiciary and changes in leadership. The House and Senate versions of the bill will be pre-filed in November to be brought up again in January when the legislature returns for the 2023 session.

We expect the bills to move quickly through the committee process in the Senate and a healthy debate in the House.

Daltons find winner's circle at Iroquois Steeplechase

South Carolina-based Kate Dalton saddled Down Royal for the Margaret Currey Henley at the Iroquois Steeplechase just outside of Nashville May 14. Kate gave her husband Bernie a leg up and Down Royal carried Bernie Dalton to his 100th NSA career victory. After travelling 2¼ miles over National Fences, they crossed the finish line 2¾ lengths in front.

Finishing second in the race was Burn The Evidence (GB). South Carolina TOBA member Virginia "Gigi" Lazenby's Del Rio Racing recently purchased Burn The Evidence, who was making her first NSA start for the European trainer-rider duo of Gordon Elliott and Davy Russell.

Fasig-Tipton sale brings good results

The Fasig-Tipton Midlantic 2-Year-Olds in Training Sale took place at Timonium in Maryland May 23-24. South Carolina-based consignors saw several sell for high prices.

Cary Frommer annually points for this sale and she saw 10 sell for $1,440,000. Frommer sold a Nyquist filly for $450,000, a Sky Mesa colt for $375,000 and a Nyquist colt for $260,000.

Marcus and Crystal Ryan sold nine for an aggregate of $688,000. Selling under their Mason Springs banner, their highlight was an Upstart filly that commanded $350,000. The Ryan's also sold a colt by Jimmy Creed for $155,000.

continued on next page

Racing Across the Nation
continued

stakes. Second-place finisher Ready to Purrform came up through Franklin "Goree" Smith's program at the Elloree Training Center.

Fasig-Tipton sale
continued

James Layden had five in his consignment bring a total of $315,000. He sold a colt by Bee Jersey for $125,000.

Kip Elser, who sold under his Kirkwood Stables banner, saw six tickets signed bringing $274,000, topped by an Into Mischief filly for $140,000.

SOUTH CAROLINA-TRAINED WINNERS

Horse	*Training Center*	*Date*	*Track*	*Type of Race*
Honorably	Custom Care - D. Freyer	5/21/22	Churchill Downs	Maiden Special Weight
JOE	Custom Care - D. Freyer	5/21/22	Pimlico	James W. Murphy S
Memory Bouquet	Rentz Training Center	5/19/22	Penn National	Allowance
U Guys Are No Fun	Travis Durr Training Center	5/18/22	Finger Lakes	Allowance
Jojohans	Rentz Training Center	5/17/22	Presque Isle	Maiden Special Weight
Writer's Regret	Travis Durr Training Center	5/16/22	Finger Lakes	Allowance
Askin for a Baskin	Travis Durr Training Center	5/15/22	Pimlico	Allowance
Cowboy Casanova	Aiken - Cary Frommer	5/14/22	Prairie Meadows	Alllowance
Finest Work	Travis Durr Training Center	5/14/22	Belmont Park	Allowance
Serifos	Travis Durr Training Center	5/14/22	Pimlico	Maiden Special Weight
Call Me Plucky	Aiken - Cary Frommer	5/13/22	Pimlico	Allowance
Foles Nation	Rentz Training Center	5/13/22	Penn National	Starter Allowance
Big Cheeks	Travis Durr Training Center	5/12/22	Penn National	Allowance
Brilliant Brooks	Travis Durr Training Center	5/12/22	Belmont Park	Starter Allowance
Bosship	Rentz Training Center	5/11/22	Finger Lakes	Maiden Special Weight
Jayjaydee	Rentz Training Center	5/11/22	Charles Town	Allowance
Jumpmaster	Rentz Training Center	5/11/22	Penn National	Starter Allowance
Divine Miracle	Travis Durr Training Center	5/10/22	Parx Racing	Allowance
Wicked Luna	Elloree Training Center	5/10/22	Mountaineer Park	Allowance
Wortherweightngold	Rentz Training Center	5/10/22	Thistledown	Allowance
Cartouche	Rentz Training Center	5/9/22	Parx Racing	Allowance
Wellington Wonder	Elloree Training Center	5/9/22	Horseshoe Indianapolis	Allowance
Betcha By Golly	Elloree Training Center	5/8/22	Laurel Park	Allowance
Kingdom Queen	Rentz Training Center	5/8/22	Monmouth Park	Starter Allowance
Last Romance	Travis Durr Training Center	5/8/22	Monmouth Park	Allowance
MISS LESLIE	Travis Durr Training Center	5/8/22	Monmouth Park	Serena's Song S
Vallelujah	Aiken - Legacy Stable	5/8/22	Belmont Park	Maiden Special Weight
Hello Amigo	Aiken - Cary Frommer	5/7/22	Charles Town	Maiden Special Weight
Regular Guy	Elloree Training Center	5/7/22	Hawthorne	Allowance
River Dog	Travis Durr Training Center	5/7/22	Belmont Park	Allowance
THREE TECHNIQUE	Travis Durr Training Center	5/7/22	Churchill Downs	Knicks Go S
Always Mia	Aiken - R. Hammond	5/6/22	Charles Town	Allowance
Conundrum Queen	Aiken - Cary Frommer/Kirkwood Stables	5/6/22	Gulfstream Park	Starter Allowance
Drive By Layover	Elloree Training Center	5/6/22	Charles Town	Allowance
He's Orientate	Travis Durr Training Center	5/6/22	Laurel Park	Allowance
Safe Conduct	Custom Care - D. Freyer	5/5/22	Belmont Park	Allowance
Bagboss	Travis Durr Training Center	5/4/22	Churchill Downs	Allowance
Tony Small	Elloree Training Center	5/4/22	Tampa Bay Downs	Allowance
Night Time	Elloree Training Center	5/3/22	Churchill Downs	Allowance
Botta Swing	Travis Durr Training Center	5/1/22	Woodbine	Maiden Special Weight
Chakra	Travis Durr Training Center	5/1/22	Oaklawn Park	Starter Allowance
Long Distance Love	Aiken - Cary Frommer	4/30/22	Laurel Park	Allowance
The Addison Pour	Custom Care - D. Freyer	4/30/22	Laurel Park	Allowance
Livingston	Aiken - Peter Pugh	4/29/22	Keeneland	Maiden Special Weight
Mike J	Travis Durr Training Center	4/29/22	Evangeline Downs	Allowance
Willyoubemine	Travis Durr Training Center	4/28/22	Balterra Park	Allowance
Leaky Cauldron	Rentz Training Center	4/27/22	Penn National	Starter Allowance
Noble Enterprise	Aiken - Peter Pugh	4/27/22	Keeneland	Allowance
Talented Man	Travis Durr Training Center	4/27/22	Parx Racing	Allowance
Lady Frosted	Travis Durr Training Center	4/26/22	Horseshoe Indi - anapolis	Allowance
Allevare	Rentz Training Center	4/25/22	Parx Racing	Allowance
Condescending	Rentz Training Center	4/25/22	Parx Racing	Maiden Special Weight
Star Rider	Rentz Training Center	4/25/22	Mountaineer Park	Maiden Special Weight
Barberini	Kirkwood Stables	4/24/22	Tampa Bay	Allowance
KAYLASAURUS	Rentz Training Center	4/23/22	Laurel Park	Primonetta S
Say It Loud	Aiken - Peter Pugh	4/23/22	Keeneland	Maiden Special Weight
La Casa d'Oro	Custom Care - D. Freyer	4/22/22	Laurel Park	Maiden Special Weight
Bustin Shout	Travis Durr Training Center	4/21/22	Aqueduct	Allowance
Nimitz Class	Rentz Training Center	4/21/22	Penn National	Allowance
Simply Super	Travis Durr Training Center	4/20/22	Keeneland	Maiden Special Weight
Tick Tock	Elloree Training Center	4/20/22	Turf Paradise	Allowance

VIRGINIA

PREPARATIONS CONTINUE FOR COLONIAL DOWNS "MORE RACING, MORE MONEY" SUMMER MEET OPENING ON JULY 11

Determined Kingdom, bred by Audley Farm Equine, won the 2021 Jamestown Stakes at Colonial Downs. The 3-year-old Animal Kingdom gelding won a $55,060 allowance most recently at Laurel June 11 (Coady Photography)

The 2022 thoroughbred racing season at Colonial Downs presented by Woodford Reserve is just around the corner and preparations are underway to make the "More Racing, More Money" 9-week meet in New Kent the best ever.

An average of $625,000 in purse money — a record amount — will be distributed daily. A $3.5 million stakes schedule is highlighted by the 19th running of the Grade 3, $300,000 New Kent County Virginia Derby on September 6. Owner and trainer bonus incentives are a big highlight of the meet too. Owners will receive the greater of $1,000 or their share of purse money from each race while trainers will receive $300 per horse started.

The season runs from July 11 - September 7 with racing every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 1:45 PM. Two non-betting steeplechase races will be held every Monday at 12:30 PM before the pari-mutuel card begins.

Owners of Virginia-Bred and Virginia-Sired horses will earn a 50% bonus on 1st to 4th place finishes in all open races. Developers of Virginia-Certified horses will earn 25% more for wins in open races and Breeders of Virginia-bred horses will earn awards for all wins at Colonial, in addition to any win in North America.

Opening day features four $125,000 stakes for Virginia-Bred/Sired horses — the Edward P. Evans, Punch Line, M. Tyson Gilpin and Brookmeade — while closing day provides a perfect bookend to the campaign with four $150,000 stakes for Virginia-restricted horses — the Meadow Stable, Camptown, Bert Allen and Nellie Mae Cox — along with the $125,000 Jamestown Stakes for 2-year-old Virginia-bred/sired freshmen.

Virginia Thoroughbred Association (VTA) members can enjoy action every day in the VTA's Hospitality Sky Suite on the 4th floor (except Derby Day). On race days, VTA members can simply take an elevator to the 4th floor level and present member credentials to receive access to the suite. Light appetizers and beverages will be served, along with the best view in the house.

Three special event day celebrations will be held as well during the meet. The VTA/VAHBPA Opening Day Picnic will be held in the trackside General Admission Tent from 12:30 - 3:30 PM on July 11. A complimentary lunch will be served. A similar closing day luncheon will be held on September 7 — Virginia-Restricted Stakes Day — with a location still to be determined. Finally, a special Legislators Day event will take place on Virginia Derby Day. A $50 admission ticket

Hamilton Smith was Colonial's top trainer in 2021 by wins. He will return this summer and try to defend his title.

A $50,000 check was presented to Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance on Virginia Derby Day, 2021.

VRC Vice-Chairman Stuart C. Siegel is optimistic about Colonial Downs' future.

will provide attendees access to the 4th floor level and a lunch on the track's biggest day of the season. More details are available at vabred.org.

At press time, stalls were being allocated and indications are that all 840 spaces in the barn area will be filled. New stables from Illinois include Larry Rivelli's (80 horses), Chris Block's (30 horses) along with outfits from trainers Tony Mitchell and Joel Campbell. Some of the top returning conditioners include Michelle Lovell, Michael Stidham, Phil Schoenthal, Mike Tomlinson and Susan Cooney among others.

Colonial Downs and the Virginia HBPA will partner in an initiative to support the Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance (TAA). Since 2019, both parties have pledged $15 per start at the Colonial meet to benefit TAA. A $50,000 check was presented to the TAA between races last September.

"Colonial Downs is once again proud to support the TAA throughout our 2022 racing season," said Jill Byrne, Colonial's VP of Racing Operations. "The care of horses during and after their racing careers is of the upmost importance, and the work the TAA does to ensure that this is accomplished, is extraordinary. We are delighted to have the TAA back at Colonial Downs for Virginia Derby Day."

Training on the main track will be available every day but Thursday and turf training will be available on Wednesdays. A condition book is online at colonialdowns.com/horsemen. Fans will again enjoy free parking and free admission every day. Five different giveaway days are scheduled including a Secretariat T-Shirt on opening day and a camouflage hat on MATCH Series Day, August 16. And for the first time in 21 years, Colonial Downs will race on Labor Day afternoon, giving families a chance to enjoy summer's last holiday in an affordable and fun atmosphere.

For bettors, Colonial will lower the takeout rate on its 50-cent Pick 5 wager to just 12% and the bet will offer a carryover provision for the first time. On days when nobody picks all 5 winners, 25% of the net pool will be paid to those who correctly select the most winners while the remaining 75% will be carried over to the following day's program. Also new this year is a Monday Mid-Atlantic Pick-4 wager during the month of August that will feature two races each at both Colonial and Monmouth.

Virginia HBPA to Sponsor Hot Walker & Groom Elite Training Programs

The Virginia HBPA announced they will be sponsoring two valuable training sessions at Colonial Downs this summer.

The hot walker training program is a three-day course designed for individuals with little or no experience handling horses. Formally called the "Introduction to Grooming 99 Program", it will prepare new workers for entry level jobs in racing. This training will be held July 6-8 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Tuition is being waived.

The "Groom Elite 101" Training program was developed to train the existing backstretch workforce and make them better horsemen and employees. Taught in both English and Spanish, this course teaches skills and knowledge through "hands on" interactive techniques. Neither formal education nor literacy are required for grooms to enjoy, learn and be certified in the Groom Elite program.

Coursework will start July 21-22 and will be held every Thursday and Friday for four weeks from 11:30 am to 3:00 pm (July 28-29, August 4-5, 11-12, and August 18-19). Tuition here is being waived as well.

Churchill Downs' Acquisition of Colonial Downs Approved at June 8 Virgnia Racing Commission Meeting

At the June 8 Virginia Racing Commission meeting, Churchill Downs, Inc. collected the first of three approvals it needs to take ownership of Colonial Downs. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the proposed Acquisition of Ownership Interest in Colonial — along with all Rosie's Gaming Emporium sites and other associated properties — from parent company Peninsula Pacific Entertainment. The deal remains on schedule to close by late fall. Approvals in New York and Iowa are pending.

"Between the last two VRC meetings, a whole lot of very promising information has come forth which we are encouraged by" said VRC Vice-Chairman Stuart Siegel, referencing presentations Churchill's reps have recently made. "Attracting more horses from Kentucky and elsewhere is exciting to us. Increasing race days and HHR machines is also a positive. Rather than seeing expenses cut, we are looking forward to additional investment in this facility. Larger crowds and growing handle, whether it's in daylight or hopefully with twilight and evening racing going forward after this coming year, is important," Siegel continued. "This relationship that's been enjoyed with Colonial has been reassuring to us after so many years of controversy between everyone. I'm very pleased that everyone seems to be dancing to the same music and hope we can keep growing together as a partnership."

Virginia Thoroughbred Association

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Virginia Breeders Fund

West Virginia
THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS ASSOCIATION
Newsletter July 2022

A lot at stake in West Virginia

By Jeff Gileas. Photographs by Coady Photography

Several oligarchs of local Thoroughbred racing made their seasonal debuts with polarizing results.

The transition from winter to spring can initiate unique performances, as physical and mental adjustments often vary among familiar to ascending hopefuls.

Following time-off, one elite group used enthusiastic workouts to attain peak fitness, while others declined a hiatus and chose the path of persistent competition.

ORIGINAL GOLD STAKES

Saturday night, April 23, the initial stakes race of 2022, had the elements of a larger-than-life heroine novel, except two-time West Virginia-bred Horse of the Year Star of Night fell three-quarters of a length short to 34-1 longshot Boundtobebad.

Owned and trained by John A Casey, Boundtobebad, a daughter of Windsor Castle out of Bound To, was the recipient of a heady ride by veteran Gerald Almodovar.

His tactical mid-race decision, to suddenly accelerate past combative pacesetters, proved boldly prudent.

Bred at Taylor Mountain Farm, Boundtobebad was the champion 2-year-old filly of 2019, and is a full sister to Castle Bound (2019 Breeders Classic winner) and Bound to Windsor (two-time stakes winner), and a half to stakes-placed Boundtobegood.

The start of the 7-furlong contest featured drama, as 80-1 rank outsider Long Legs Louise stumbled, unseating her jockey, making contact with prohibitive choice Star of Night.

Also comprised by an awkward beginning was second choice in the wagering, Azzurra, bred by Antonio Scotto Di Carlo. The 11-time winner was subsequently forced to race at a loss of ground and closed belatedly to collect third place honors.

The $75,000 race is named for Original Gold, back-to-back winner of the influential Cavada Stakes (2004-2005). Bred by Francis Daniel III, the offspring of Slavic and Goldendeoro performed in the distinctive colors of owner/trainer Ronney W. Brown.

CONFUCIUS SAY STAKES

One race later, the results of the Confucius Say Stakes calmed the public's indulgent passion for short price contenders, as No Change (2-1) recorded his fourth win of 2022 for owner/trainer/breeder John D. McKee.

The long-legged gray son of Fiber Sonde out of Looks Like Trouble (by Indian Charlie) provided promising

apprentice Marshall Mendez with the first stakes triumph of his career.

Runnerup Penguin Power advanced his sire's quality and family karma. The chestnut gelding by Fiber Sonde out of Aye Robbin and a full brother to multiple stakes winner Aye a Song, came ever closer to $400,000 in career earnings with his finish, while giving all indications he is seriously focused on his 2022 crusade.

No Change exemplifies Cyndy McKee's fondness to pair Fiber Sonde with Indian Charlie blood. Historic illustrations – Late Night Pow Wow ($700,000), Muad'dib (9-for-9, $333,161), Hidden Canyon ($319,000), Bullets Fever (8-for-8, $227,424) – bear witness as bountiful testaments to the Beau Ridge Farm couple's philosophy.

The stakes is named for a legendary West Virginia-bred who was formidable from 4½ furlongs to 1⅛ miles. Three-time winner of the WV Breeders Classic, Confucius Say competed in the iconic silks of his breeder O'Sullivan Farms and earned over $1 million in his illustrious career.

COIN COLLECTOR STAKES

The great physicist Albert Einstein is credited with the formula E=mc2.

If Mister Einstein was looking down on the Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races Saturday evening, May 14, he might have proposed that speed + fervor equals prosperity.

Math Man Marco aggressively cleared rivals leaving the chute in the one-turn sprint, preserved his advantage rounding the far turn, and gamely held sway late under aggressive urging by rider Carlos Lopez to win the 4½-furlong Coin Collector for 3-year-olds.

The son of unraced stallion Alliance out of Euro Indian Girl is owned and bred by Robert L. Cole Jr. and trained by Irving Velez.

Followers of the local racing scene would recall Euro Indian Girl. A hearty speed merchant that exuded velocity, she won 12-of-33 lifetime races while earning over $200,000.

Checking in second behind Math Man Marco was the 1-5 fan selection, Coastal Mission.

A strapping son of Great Notion out of Smart Crowd, Coastal Mission is pedigree gold, being a full-brother to Mid-Atlantic sprinter extraordinaire Lewisfield.

Coastal Mission was on the heels of four consecutive starts at Laurel Park before enjoying a three-month break prior to the $75,000-added Coin Collector.

Genes are certainly not sleeping on the job with either of these two gifted individuals.

Only time and an increase in distance will settle who deserves a dominant berth at the top of the class.

Coin Collector raced primarily in the early 1990s for his owner/breeder John A. Casey. He is credited with winning the Primer Breeders' Cup Stakes (Laurel Park), West Virginia Lottery and Department of Tourism Stakes, Tri-State Futurity, West Virginia Futurity and the Ronrico Breeders Classic (Twice).

ITS BINN TOO LONG STAKES

Some in this business say any time period is too long to wait for success, others insist patience is a fundamental virtue.

One month after standing in the winner's circle accepting the trophy for the Confucius Say Stakes, Cyndy McKee revisited the treasured ring of honor after the Its Binn Too Long Stakes with her homebred Silky Serena.

Scorching daytime temperatures were somewhat abated by the Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races nighttime docket, though many in the field of eight 3-year-old

fillies were still visibly warm in the post parade.

Favoritism wavered between Fancy Her Up (Juba—Fancy Up), and Katherine Funkhouser's undefeated runner Seneca Rocks (Summer Front—Cleft in the Rock).

Silky Serena (9-1), a daughter of Fiber Sonde out of Safe At First, attained a forward position from the jump, just behind Lucylou Who and Fancy Her Up, who staged their personal head-to-head duel.

The pace was wicked as the two leaders rambled the opening quarter in 21 and change and the half in 45.44 seconds.

At the top of the stretch, Silky Serena engaged the determined leaders and by the wire had edged clear to a half-length margin of victory.

Jockey Reshawn Latchman was aboard for team McKee.

The stakes is named for the Taylor Mountain Farm filly who in 1999 as a 3-year-old won all seven of her starts, including the Ruth Funkhouser, Sadie Hawkins and West Virginia F&M National Corporation Cavada Breeders Classic.

West Virginia Thoroughbred Breeders Association

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An architect of change

Virginia steeplechase Hall of Famer strives to boost racing from the ground up

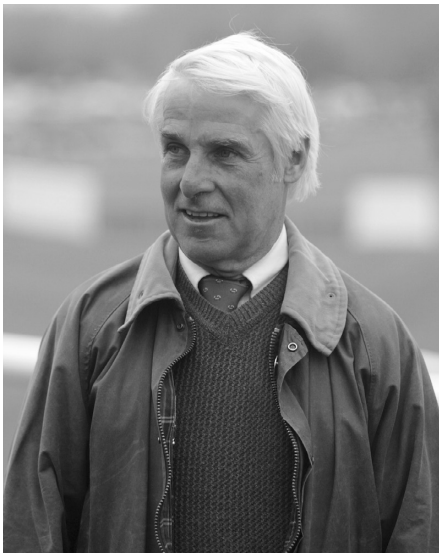
By Betsy Burke Parker

For more than four decades, longtime steeplechase horseman Don Yovanovich has served the industry as a race director, course designer, rules challenger, visionary and all-around squeaky wheel. He's best known as a trainer of horses and a trainer of young riders, but, on and off the racecourse, Yovanovich changes hats as often as Parker Hendriks changes hat covers.

With a no-nonsense manner and a keen eye on progress, the Virginia horseman has been an architect of change within the industry, advocating for creation of the National Steeplechase Association's safety committee, designing race series to promote grassroots participation at the point-to-point level, creating officials' seminars to bring in new blood and most recently helping pen a shoe rule to align jump racing with flat racing.

"I can't think of anybody with a more impressive report," says Central Entry Office founder Will O'Keefe about the 2011 Virginia Steeplechase Hall of Fame inductee. O'Keefe isn't exaggerating – there's an 18-page jockey report, 42-page trainer report and 60 year-end awards listed for Yovanovich's 46-year (and counting) career. "He was 13-time leading trainer, but I think more impressive are the 22 amateur champions he trained. Foxhunter timber series, owner-rider timber, owner-rider hurdles, ladies' timber. He brought a lot of people into the sport."

Yovanovich still gallops four or five horses each morning each morning at the old Rockburn Farm near Rectortown, Virginia, training mostly for the flat these days as his client base has shifted away



©Tod Marks

from owner-rider 'chasers that were his forte in past decades. He's slim and soft-spoken at age 71, and with signature white locks like Bob Baffert / Wayne Lukas, an easily identifiable part of the steeplechase community.

"He's given a huge amount of time and energy to steeplechase racing," says the nation's longest-serving racing commissioner, Delaware's Duncan Patterson. "But the thing I admire about him the most is if you ask him to do it, he'll do it. What he tells you, you can take that to the bank."

How it Happened

Raised in the Rosemont community on Philadelphia's main line, Yovanovich's father was an industrialist who designed paper conversion equipment machines. His mother raised five children – son Donald was second-youngest. The parents encouraged education and outdoor activities in equal measure.

"But we were not a horse family, not at all," Yovanovich recalls his sisters being led to and fro on rental ponies on the sand on vacation at Margate City, New Jersey.

Back home, his older sisters clamored for lessons, and Malvern horseman Hervey Swann was contracted to teach the whole clan. An true all-around professional, Swann hunted, showed, taught lessons and played polo.

"I got drug into it by my ears," Yovanovich recalls his initial indifference. "It was weird. I quit, but a year later, I told my parents 'there's something about riding I miss,' and they let me go back."

Swann got the small but strong Yovanovich to help make up and sell the show ponies, campaigning on the local and national circuit, first ponies, then junior hunters, jumpers and equitation.

Even back then, Yovanovich says, for every 100 girls at a show, there were two boys.

In his class, there were actually three.

The regional circuit in the mid-1960s became a feeder circuit of sorts for jump racing, producing three eventual jump jocks out of the show arena: Yovanovich, amateur owner-rider Nick Ellis, and Matt Collins, later a top adult hunter rider and steeplechase jockey who quit to become a male model, eventually landing the lucrative "Marlboro Man" ad campaign in Japan.

Yovanovich says he particularly thrived on the concentration required in equitation, qualifying for both Medal and Maclay finals and winning more than a dozen USET equitation classes.

College – first Ohio State, where he

played right midfield on the varsity soccer team, then Villanova, where he earned a bachelors in biology, a masters in cellular physiology – curtailed his riding, but he jumped back in during his final semester at Villanova.

"I hadn't been on a horse for six years,"

Amateur Racing:

In 1975, Daily Racing Form cartoonist Pierre "Peb" Bellocq founded the Amateur Riders Club of America , a non-profit association for amateur jockeys that operates on grants and tax-deductible donations to fund trips to develop riders and allow them to represent the U.S. at home and abroad.

ARCA is a member of the international amateur racing club, Fegentri . Yovanovich was the first American elected to the Fegentri board of directors in 2015.

A short list of horsemen that got their starts in ARCA and Fegentri races, that remain in the industry, include Sean Clancy, Joe Gillet Davies, Blythe Miller Davies, Gregg Ryan, Matt McCarron, Kathy Neilson, Sanna Neilson, and flat riders Forest Boyce, Trevor McCarthy, Eclipse champion apprentice Weston Hamilton, runner-up Julio Correa and others.

It's that kind of continued support, Yovanovich stresses, that makes ARCA an important part of the equation. "Riding in top company, around the world, gave these guys and girls a real leg up in learning finishing style, the importance of the start, how to settle a horse they don't know, strategy," he says.

Don Yovonovich and jockey/owner Annie Yaeger unsaddle Mischief after a win at the 2012 Warrenton Hunt Point to Point Races. Yovanovich picked up training duties for Mischief in 2012, from Tom Voss. *©Douglas Lees*

Yovanovich says. "Someone said Mrs. (Betty) Bird over in Unionville was looking for someone to school young horses.

"I remember the interview. She asked me to dinner, told me to bring photos of me showing. We sat up 'til 1 a.m. talking and looking at old pictures. Finally she looked at me and said, 'Can you be here at 5 a.m.'?"

Back in the Saddle

"Mrs. Bird was a brilliant horsewoman, an elegant rider. She and Mr. (Charlie) Bird could not have been more generous to me." Nearby horsemen Paddy Neilson and Buzz Hannum became mentors, Yovanovich says, and he "learned a ton" from Doug Small when he took over as Small's assistant at Delaware Park.

"There's another great horseman," Yovanovich says. "How to pick races for horses, how to keep (older) horses sound and going, about swimming horses (for fitness.) Dougie used to swim horses in his farm there in Cochranville.

"He taught me that when in doubt about running a horse, scratch him. There's always another race, but not always another horse."

Yovanovich next rode for Pennsylvania trainer Bill Walsh, winning the 1978 Virginia Gold Cup and Radnor Hunt Cup with Mrs. Edgar Scott's Navy Davy and hooking up with Walsh's client Randy Waterman. At the end of the season, Yovanovich moved to Virginia to help Waterman set up Trappe Hill Farm in Upperville and develop a property beside the Middleburg Training Center as home to the Middleburg Equine Swim Center.

Yovanovich whipped for Waterman at Piedmont, and later for Middleburg Hunt, and got his AHSA "R" judges' card.

It was the eye he'd honed through showing and judging that Yovanovich credits for his later ability to mentor novice riders new to the race circuit.

"My favorite equitation test (in the show ring) was to have the top four riders swap horses and jump the course with no irons," he recalls. "Show horses, racehorses, same. You've gotta learn to sit back and leave the horse the hell alone.

"Most errors are pilot errors."

A stream of owner-riders followed (Will Russell, Rusty Cline, Jim Whitner and others,) with novice riders lining up to work with him (Mark and Joey Sharp, Deborah Rowe, Tiffany Mueller, Jake Secor, Molly Forlano White, Annie Yeager and more.)

It worked because he rode with them, Yovanovich says, galloping, working and schooling upsides. "I'd say 'look at me, mimic me' to help them get the feel."

"I met Donnie hunting with Middleburg 20 years ago," says Molly White (then Molly Forlano.) "I asked him repeatedly if I could ride for him.

"He finally said yes," sealing a seven-year partnership resulting in five series titles and the 2005 point-to-point rider championship for White.

"It's exactly what Mr. Swann did for me," Yovanovich says. "He gave me confidence, talked about mistakes later, privately and quietly.

"I walked every step of every course with every rider, like he did with me. You learn to pay attention to details."

Association with the Association

In 1979, then-president Peter Winants called on Yovanovich for input at the point-to-point association. "A couple years later, he handed me the checkbook and said 'you run it'," Yovanovich recalls.

A couple years later, he assisted Nick Arundel in developing the Great Meadow racecourse, eventually becoming race chair and director for Virginia Gold Cup and International Gold Cup – 31 years each, and joining the NSA race chairmen's committee, eventually serving as four-time chair.

Yovanovich changed the Virginia Point-to-Point Association to the non-profit Virginia Point-to-Point Foundation in 2014, and he created a series of officials' seminars. The feeder program has created a steady flow of officials, from placing judges to patrol judges, both for local point-to-points and at the NSA level.

He drew up novice rider and restricted young rider point-to-point divisions to increase participation at the "starter" level, and as president of the Amateur Riders Club of America, fosters international amateur competition. Given that six of the top 10 all-time NSA owners had amateur race careers themselves, Yovanovich says the hands-on involvement is, obviously, a key component.

"People tend to stick with something they've, personally, been part of," he says, pointing to all-time sport leader Augustin Stables' George Strawbridge and Irv Naylor as prime examples. "Division (races) make it accessible. That's what's going to protect and grow this sport."

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Looking Back

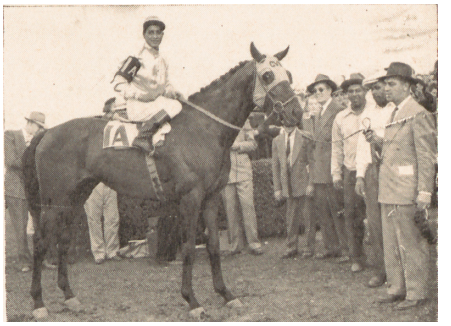
75 years ago

■ Stretch-running Phalanx won the Belmont Stakes for C.V. Whitney. A son of Virginia sire Pilate out of the *Jacopo mare Jacola, the colt was bred in Virginia by Abram S. Hewitt.

Phalanx was named champion 3-year-old colt after winning five stakes that year, including the Jockey Club Gold Cup. He retired in 1949 with 13 wins from 41 starts, eight stakes wins, 15 stakes-placings, and earnings of $409,275.

■ The Maryland Racing Commission saw a change in leadership with George P. Mahoney no longer being a member of the organization, and Stuart S. Janney Jr. stepping in as chairman. Over three pages, writer Don Reed recounted the list of questions racing enthusiasts had for the commission as he considered the previous seasons and determined which rules were good for the organization and which ones should be changed.

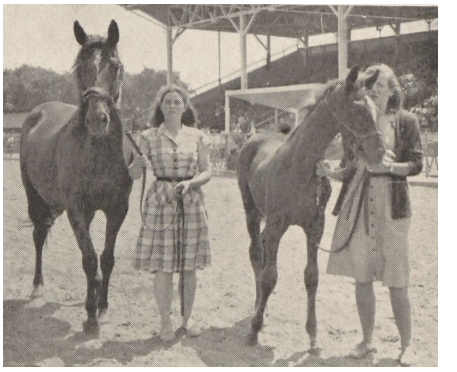
■ Kenneth N. Gilpin, born a Marylander but a longtime Virginian by adoption, died suddenly at the age of 57. A former



Virginia-bred Phalanx, who got better as the distances got longer, won the 1947 Belmont Stakes for owner C.V. Whitney and later added the 2-mile Jockey Club Gold Cup.

M.F.H., long interested in Thoroughbred breeding and racing, he was best known as one of the importers of the great French sire *Teddy, who stood five seasons at Kentmere, the Gilpin stud in Boyce. He was also president of the Virginia Horsemen's Association for a number of years.

Gilpin bought Fasig-Tipton Company, at which he sold yearlings for 25 years, from Mrs. E.J. Tranter and had great plans for its expansion and development, which would be carried on by his eldest son, M. Tyson Gilpin, who was to take his father's place in the sales company.



Winner of the Maryland Horse Breeders' trophy for best Maryland-bred Thoroughbred at Timonium was Janon Fisher Jr.'s Swing and Sway—Licketysplit filly. Handlers were Margie (Macneille) and sister Meena (now living in Fishing Creek). Julie Fisher Colhoun added, "Our father was always a big supporter of showing his horses, from foals to stallions."

50 years ago

■ Salt Spray boasted 3-year-old stakes winner Deep Cut from his first crop of just five offspring. A New Jersey-bred colt owned by Colonial Farm and trained by Joe Kulina, Deep Cut won Monmouth Park's Long Branch Stakes, shattering the track's 1-mile turf course record. Salt Spray was one of John Manfuso's four stallions standing at Osufnam (Manfuso spelled backwards) Farm near Westminster, Md.

■ Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Janney Jr.'s Locust Hill Farm won two stakes within eight days when Icecapade captured the $50,000-added Saranac in near record time at Aqueduct, and On Your Toes followed in Delaware Park's $25,000-added Brandywine Turf Handicap. The first-time stakes winners were both by Maryland stallions (Nearctic and Restless Native, respectively), but only On Your Toes was foaled at the Janneys' Glyndon, Md., farm.

Explaining why Icecapade was foaled in Kentucky, Janney said: "We had a season to Bold Ruler for Icecapade's dam [Shenanigans, by Native Dancer] that year,

PETER WINANTS COLLECTION / MARYANDHORSE LIBRARY

Salt Spray, a son of Sailor out of Kentucky Derby winner Dark Star's full sister Perfect Gem (by *Royal Gem II), enjoys a romp in his paddock at Osufnam Farm.

and we didn't want to take any chances. So instead of letting her foal here, we sent her to Kentucky so that she'd be in the best shape possible when it came time to breed her to Bold Ruler."

■ Maryland-bred Iberia was named Broodmare of the Year by the Kentucky Thoroughbred Breeders Association. Iberia (*Heliopolis—War East, by Easton), dam of Kentucky Derby and Belmont Stakes winner Riva Ridge and additional stakes winners Hydrologist and Potomac, was bred by Larry MacPhail and foaled in 1954 at his Glenangus Farm near Bel Air. Christopher T. Chenery purchased Iberia for $15,000 from MacPhail at the Saratoga yearling sale.

■ Lead Me On, champion Maryland-bred in the 1971 filly and mare division, was retired by her owner, Mrs. Gordon Rust. The 5-year-old daughter of Native Dancer and Tempted, trained by Henry Clark, was to be bred to Cyane. His owner, who raced under the name of Mooring Stable, was a sister of Jane duPont Lunger, who campaigned Cyane with her husband Harry in the name of their Christiana Stables.

Lead Me On dealt with ankle trouble, which hastened her retirement, but she won eight times in 32 starts over four seasons (including a 16-start campaign in 1971). Her Cyane foal became Grade 3 winner Tell Me All.

25 years ago

■ Editor Tim Capps reflected on the state of racing without a Triple Crown winner, then going on a 19-year gap.

"The Triple Crown is, by the nature of its structure, very difficult to win. Seven horses did so from 1930 through 1948, when foal crops were small and there was less focus on the Triple Crown. There were many superior horses racing in America over the next two and a half decades, but we were not to see another Triple Crown winner until Secretariat in 1973. We then had two more in the '70s in Seattle Slew (1977) and Affirmed, both arguably great horses.

"Theorize all you wish about the scarcities of Triple Crown winners, but accept one immutable fact: it is, and will remain, a difficult and rare achievement. And that is as it should be."

■ Silver Charm started out the Triple Crown races by edging out Maryland-based Captain Bodgit, trained by Gary Capuano, in the Kentucky Derby-G1. Silver Charm won a three-way battle with Free House and Captain Bodgit for the Woodlawn Vase in the Preakness. Spoiler Touch Gold then proved best in the Belmont Stakes by catching Silver Charm in the stretch and winning by three-quarters of a length.

■ Pennsylvania tracks would have to wait another year to get the slot machines they claimed were needed to stem the loss of customers and revenue to the slots at tracks in Delaware and West Virginia. The House declined to vote on a bill that would have allowed voters to decide whether the state's two Thoroughbred and two harness tracks could have up to 1,500 slots each. House leadership cited Gov. Tom Ridge's reluctance to sign a bill expanding gambling, though Ridge could have allowed the bill to become law without his signature.

■ The late, great steeplechase trainer Mickey Walsh was named to the National Racing Hall of Fame. The Irish-born horseman, who made his home in North Carolina and died in 1993 at the age of 86, left a legacy far beyond his 31 stakes winners and his six wins in both the Carolina Cup and Saratoga Steeplechase Cup–he founded the Stoneybrook Steeplechase in Southern Pines, N.C, in 1948. The race meet grew into one of North Carolina's top sporting events and lasted 49 years.

■ Saluter and his rider/trainer Jack Fisher won the inaugural World Timber Championship, which offered a $100,000 bonus to a horse who could win both the Virginia Gold Cup (at Great Meadow, Va.) and the Marlborough Cup (in Wiltshire, England) within a 13-month span. A daunting challenge, under the best of circumstances. But Saluter did it within 15 days. Mrs. Henry Stern's Virginia-bred son of Salutely won the Virginia Gold Cup (for the fourth time in a row) May 3, then survived a grueling journey to return triumphant in the Marlborough Cup.

■ For the first time, horses were not divided into select and open sessions at Fasig-Tipton Midlantic's spring 2-year-old sale. Success was reflected by a 46.9 percent increase in average–$25,543, compared with $17,889 for the prior year's select and open sessions combined. Another new feature included videos of every horse who worked during the pre-sale showings on the Timonium track.

10 years ago

■ Coming off his upset in the Kentucky Derby-G1 two weeks earlier, I'll Have Another sat at 3-1 as the second choice behind Virginia-bred Bodemeister in the Preakness Stakes-G1 at Pimlico. Owned by Reddam Racing and trained by Doug O'Neill, the Derby winner caught the favorite in the stretch to prevail by a neck. Writers Joe and Sean Clancy followed O'Neill back to the Pimlico barn beforehand, watched with assistant Jack Sisterson and otherwise caught the whole story as I'll Have Another won the first two legs of the Triple Crown.

The son of Flower Alley never got his chance at history as he was scratched before the Belmont Stakes-G1 and never raced again. He stood at stud in Japan for several years, and returned to California as a stallion for the 2019 season. He stands at Ocean Breeze Ranch in Bonsal, Calif.

■ The historic Pimlico Special returned after a three-year hiatus and was won by Pin Oak Stud's fifth-generation homebred Alternation. Although the former Grade 1 race was now a Grade 3, it held special meaning to the winning connections. "For us and for Mrs. [Josephine] Abercrombie, it's really special. She cares so much about her horses and this sport. It's a very prestigious race, a great race to win, a huge thing for us," said Pin Oak's general manager Clifford Barry.

STUART HAMAN

Derby winner and eventual Preakness winner I'll Have Another on his way to the post with his famous lead pony, future Hall of Famer Lava Man.

■ Mid-Atlantic-based Rapid Redux was retired to Old Friends Thoroughbred retirement center in Georgetown, Ky. Rapid Redux started his winning streak in December 2010 for owner Robert Cole by capturing an $8,000 claimer at Penn National. From there, he was unbeatable everywhere from Penn, Parx Racing, Laurel Park, Timonium, Charles Town, Mountaineer, Thistledown and the 22nd consecutive victory in a starter allowance at Laurel Park Jan. 4, 2012. The son of Pleasantly Perfect set a modern-day record for consecutive wins, breaking the mark of 19 held by Peppers Pride and 2010 Horse of the Year Zenyatta.

■ Jim Lewis, the first president of Maryland Million Ltd. and past president of MHBA, died of a heart attack at age 72. Lewis bred and/or campaigned prominent runners in the region, including Maybellene, winner of the Test-G2 in 1974, multiple stakes winner Swift Attraction, graded winner and stakes-producer Heartful and graded winner Duckhorn. Less than a week before his death Shine for Me, a fourth-generation homebred and full-sister to stakes winner Gonna Dash, got her second career win in allowance company.

Sharpie: Mary Jane Sattler and her mount prepare for a jousting run in 1939. Maryland's state sport, jousting is the world's oldest equestrian sport and was developed in the Middle Ages as combat training for the cavalry. And . . . Maryland was the first state to adopt a state sport.

Photojournalist A. Aubrey Bodine, who worked at the Baltimore *Sun* for 50 years – from 1920 until his death in 1970 – captured many scenes of Maryland horses, farms and racing. He was regarded worldwide as one of the finest pictorialists of the 20th century. *Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred* features his work in Past Time.

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